

Gulf tension rises sharply after Saudi tanker attack

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Tension over the Gulf War rose sharply yesterday after a Saudi Arabian super-tanker was attacked and set ablaze by an unidentified aircraft in Saudi waters. It was the fifth attack this week on neutral shipping.

The aircraft was officially unidentified, but it is thought almost certainly to have been Iranian, as Saudi Arabia has been the main contributor to Iraq of funds without which President Saddam Hussein would have long been in financial difficulties over continuing the four-year war.

News of the raid came shortly after Kuwait accused Iran of attacking two of its tankers in the Gulf earlier in the week, the first clear indication that both Gulf War protagonists have been bombing other merchantmen.

Britain and the United States reacted swiftly to the latest developments by expressing concern and repeating calls for an end to the fighting.

The 212,000-tonne Saudi tanker Yambu Bada was hit by rockets or cannon fire five miles north of the busy industrial port of Jubail and close to the crucial Saudi oil terminal at Ras Tanura.

A fire which started in the starboard hold was quickly extinguished and no casualties were reported, but Lloyd's said last night that two unexploded missiles were discovered on the tanker after the raid.

Iran issued a warning yesterday that it would close the Gulf to all shipping unless Iraq stopped attacking tankers sailing to and from Iran's oil terminal at Kharg Island.

The Iranian warning came from Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, the Speaker of Parliament, who was quoted as saying: "If the Kharg route is not safeguarded then no other routes in the Persian Gulf will be secure." The Gulf would be safe for all or for none, he added.

The growing tension brought forward the prospect of intervention in the Gulf by the West in general and the United States in particular. About a fifth of Western oil supplies pass through the Strait of Hormuz.

In Washington, Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said the United States was "determined to keep the Strait of Hormuz open. The US will do what is necessary."

The United States, Britain and France all have warships near at hand. A Foreign Office source last night confirmed that the Government was keeping closely in touch with the Americans and EEC partners.

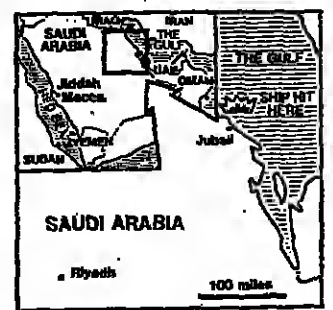
An official statement said: "We are seriously concerned by the recent spate of attacks on tanker traffic in the Gulf. These appear to have been mounted by both Iraq and Iran."

No British ship has been hit since the bulk carrier Charming was caught in an Iraqi raid while it was sailing in an Iranian convoy in the Gulf in March. The crew abandoned ship. There were no fatalities.

Lloyd's - raise premiums: Lloyd's is expected to increase further the cost of insuring tankers in the Gulf after the latest attacks. Our Business Staff writes. On Monday it put up the cost of insuring a ship in the Kharg Island region to 3 per cent of the sum insured, with cover extended to a maximum of seven days in the area. Hull insurance, normally cover as little as 0.0375 per cent where there is little danger of hostilities.

The incidence of attacks farther south in the Gulf is bound to have an effect on insurance rates in the Gulf as a whole, underwriters said yesterday. One said the whole Gulf region could be put on a war-risk footing.

The attacks caused a surge in spot-market oil prices in Rotterdam, though there appears to be little danger of this having any effect on prices at the pumps.



Leading article, page 13



Mrs Ann Scargill with a police escort in Mansfield yesterday before appearing in court.

Scargill's wife on picket charge

From Craig Seton Mansfield

Mrs Ann Scargill, wife of the miners' president, Mr Arthur Scargill, is banned for the time being from picketing or demonstrating in Nottinghamshire after her appearance in court at Mansfield yesterday.

She was accused of obstructing a police officer and obstructing the highway after being arrested in the Nottinghamshire coal field early yesterday.

After a brief hearing, in which she appeared with three other women, Mrs Scargill, who was arrested at 5.30am at Silverhill Colliery, near Sutton in Ashfield, was remanded on bail until July 11.

At the request of the police the magistrates imposed a condition of bail on Mrs Scargill and the three other women that they do not visit any place in the Nottinghamshire coal field for the purpose of picketing or demonstrating during the present dispute between the miners and the coal board.

Mrs Scargill, aged 41, of Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, was charged with obstructing Police Constable Clive Powell in the execution of his duty, and wilfully obstructing the free passage of Silverhill Lane near Silverhill Colliery.

After her arrest she and the other three were taken to Hucknall police station and held for documentation throughout the day until they were taken in a police van the few miles to Mansfield for yesterday's court appearance.

All the women faced similar charges with the exception of Audrey Moore, of Nottingham, who was additionally charged with assaulting Police Constable James Shearer.

Lynn Hathaway, of Barnsley, was accused of wilfully obstructing the highway and obstructing Police Constable Michael Craig while Elizabeth Hollis, of Nottingham, faced two charges of highway obstruction and obstructing Police Constable David James.

The women had been at Silverhill Colliery early yesterday supporting the Nottinghamshire miners' wives support group. Mrs Scargill, who works in the computer department of the Coop in Barnsley, was one of about 40 women who arrived at the colliery.

Detective Sergeant John Burton requested that bail be granted conditionally.

Mr Christopher Chapman, for the four women, unsuccessfully opposed the application for conditional bail saying that the condition was tantamount to a criminal court granting an injunction effectively to the police in a matter which was for the civil courts.

Mr Edward Higham, the acting magistrates' chairman, said that the women would be remanded on conditional bail until July 11.

Strike's legal test, page 2

Unlawful killing verdict on Skinner

By John Witherow

Dennis Skinner, the Midland Bank representative in Moscow who died in a fall from his flat last June, was unlawfully killed, a coroner's jury in Croydon decided yesterday.

The surprise verdict, reached after nearly four hours, opens up new areas of speculation because Mr Skinner had feared arrest and possible murder by the KGB.

The Labour Party spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr Donald Anderson, called for a Foreign Office investigation, but the ministry refused to comment last night.

The verdict was not heard by Mr Skinner's widow, Lyndmilla, who stayed away after it was stated on Tuesday that she believed she had betrayed the KGB and feared abduction.

The coroner, Dr Mary McHugh, told the jury of six men and two women not to underestimate her fears in view of "that unfortunate Markov incident in 1978". Mr Markov, a Bulgarian defector and BBC broadcaster, was killed in London by a jab from a poisoned umbrella.

Mrs Skinner, aged 39, will be eligible for £200,000 insurance which would have been withheld if the verdict was suicide.

Dr McHugh instructed the jury not to return a suicide verdict despite the Soviet police finding no signs of a struggle and saying his flat was locked from inside.

Dr McHugh said everything about Mr Skinner pointed against suicide and that someone could have escaped on to a balcony from his twelfth floor apartment.

"You must have definite proof of intention and if such a (suicide) verdict were returned, Mrs Lyndmilla Skinner would have every right to go to the High Court and ask for it to be quashed."

The dismissed accidental death because of the difficulty of falling out of the window and because Mr Skinner had a track record over his head.

Dr McHugh gave special attention to a note Mr Skinner gave to a neighbour two days before he died in which he stated his life was in danger and that he knew of a spy in the British security services.

"It is a strange coincidence that death should have occurred such a short time after the writing of the note."

Dr McHugh said that Mr Skinner had been in contact with the KGB for many years, but that this was a "cover because he was a very patriotic man."

But she believed it would be difficult to make a verdict of accidental death or unlawful killing "stick" and said that the jury could always return an open verdict. The jury thought otherwise.

The morose loner, page 2

Plain Joanne
Socrates, the new love in the life of Mrs Paul Newman: Laurie Taylor talks to Joanne Woodward

Cap and Cup
Philip Howard doffs his cap to the Cambridge University Press

Overtone
Full reports on the Benson and Hedges Cup cricket matches

Volkswagen at standstill in Germany

Volkswagen is halting all vehicle production in West Germany and Belgium early next week because of the strikes by German metalworkers campaigning for a 35-hour week. BMW and Daimler-Benz have already announced plans to shut down production and Ford, Opel and Audi are expected to follow.

Fillip for Hart

Easy wins in the Oregon and Nebraska primaries have added fresh momentum to Senator Gary Hart's campaign for the Democratic nomination after last week's victories in Ohio and Indiana.

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Denning claim

Lord Denning said in the Lords that the Libyans who walked free after the murder of Policewoman Yvonne Fletcher were not entitled to diplomatic immunity under international law.

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£28m art sale

A sale of Impressionist and modern art at Sotheby's New York made £28m in less than two hours.

Back page

Robbins dies

Lord Robbins, the educationist who had a stroke 11 days ago, has died in London, aged 85.

Obituary, page 14

Houses blasted

Israeli forces on a security sweep in southern Lebanon blew up refugees' houses where arms and explosives were allegedly found.

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Football results

European Cup Winners' Cup final: Juventus 2, Porto 1. First division: Nottingham Forest 2, Manchester United 0.

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Marshall of the RAF Lord Cameron of Balhousie; education and industry, from Mr D. A. Smith; opera, from Mr M. Aldridge

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Amis; Hans-Dietrich Genscher still battles to bring together East and West; Kenneth Fleet on the global village traders; Racism, a word that can stretch to cover anything; Saudi Arabia: an 8-page Special Report on the political and economic mood of this pivotal Arab state

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John Campbell explains why Directors-General of the BBC write dull memoirs; Robert Nye reviews poetry; interviews with Verdi; Barbara Tuhman, Francoise Sagan

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Skeleton may be Nairac's

From Richard Ford Belfast

Police in the Irish Republic believe that a skeleton discovered in a bog a few miles from the border may be that of Captain Robert Nairac, the SAS officer murdered by the Provisional IRA while on undercover duty.

The skeleton, with what is believed to be a bullet hole through the skull, was discovered by a man walking his dog across a field on the outskirts of Knockbridge village near Dundalk, co Louth. A skull was protruding above the bog and the rest of the body had been covered with stones.

The skeleton will remain under police guard until later today when Dr John Harbison, the state pathologist in the Republic, is expected to begin a detailed examination. Positive identification of the skeleton found close to the border where Captain Nairac is believed to have been killed, may have to rely on dental records.

Captain Nairac, aged 29, a Grenadier Guardsman, was posthumously awarded the George Cross in 1979, two years after he was abducted from the Three Steps Inn at Forkhill, co Armagh by at least seven men. He was interrogated about his secret operations in South Armagh before being tortured and murdered by the Provisional IRA.

Six men are serving jail sentences in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic in connection with the kidnapping and murder.



Captain Nairac: Tortured and killed

Teachers balloted on series of 3-day strikes over pay claim

By Richard Garner of the Times Educational Supplement

Next week's strikes are likely to cause far more disruption than hitherto because of an agreement with the second largest teachers' union, the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, which has agreed not to take on any timetable commitments of teachers on strike.

Union leaders are predicting that the action will lead to widespread school closures. The areas balloted this week include Barnet - which includes the constituency of the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher - Hampshire, where the leader of the management negotiators, Mr Philip Merriale, is chairman of the education committee, and Leeds, which is the constituency of Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary.

However, union leaders say that they have not selected areas with a view to putting pressure on leading political opponents of their pay claim.

Mr Douglas McAvoy, acting general secretary of the NUT, said: "We want to show over the next four weeks the widespread dissatisfaction of teachers, whether they are working in Labour authorities."

Hesitant Dutch anger Heseltine

From Frederick Bonnard, Brussels

A Nato official added that Mr Heseltine's strong stand was supported by the US Secretary of Defence, Mr Casper Weinberger and most of the other ministers.

Mr de Ruiter took note solidly of the strictures of his colleagues. He said that he had no power to intervene but that the decision was that of his Government to whom he would report the concern of his allies.

"Arms control has from the start played a major role in forming our attitude," he said, pointing out that in 1979, on the day of the two-track decision, the Dutch Government had made a reservation

concerning deployment of missiles in the Netherlands. There was no question of going back on an earlier commitment but merely returning to the 1979 position, he added.

"The Netherlands is and will be and must remain a good and loyal ally," he said.

The main concern of Ministers, according to Nato sources, is not the loss of 48 cruise missiles - they could be stationed elsewhere - but that the hard-won solidarity which allowed deployment to begin last December should now unravel.

Budget fall-out, page 5

Pretoria admits forcing blacks to move

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa has conceded that almost two million black people have been "relocated" since 1960, but maintains that only 456,860 of these were moved for what could be called "ideological reasons".

The figures were given this week by Dr Piet Koornhof, the Minister for Cooperation and Development, who is responsible for black affairs, partly in response to a report published last year which estimated that nearly three and a half million blacks had been forcibly resettled in pursuit of apartheid ideology.

Dr Koornhof said that there had been "an element of force in some removals", but added that relocation was now "ideological" and that the Government was "trying not to have to move people by force as far as this is humanly possible".

The minister dismissed the five-volume Surplus People's Project report, a painstakingly and scientifically researched work by a group of concerned academics, as propaganda which was full of "half truths, quarter truths and 10 per cent truth".

Liberal groups concerned with the promotion of black rights, such as the Black Sash, run mainly by white women, and the South African Institute of Race Relations, were quick to accuse Dr Koornhof of juggling with figures and semantic definitions.

It was irrelevant whether three and a half million, two million or half a million people who had been moved when this had happened against their will, spokesmen for the two organizations declared.

Mr John Kane-Berman,



Dr Koornhof: Lenounces report as propaganda

director of race relations institute, said it was significant that Dr Koornhof had admitted that forced removal was taking place as the Government had persistently denied that this had occurred.

The Surplus People's Project

calculated that a further one and three quarter million people could be faced with resettlement in the future.

Dr Koornhof did not explain on what basis some removals were to be regarded as "ideological" and others not. All resettlement ultimately is related to the Government's policy of seeking to keep the races apart, the essence of apartheid, which involves confining as many blacks as possible in tribal reserves.

An insight into the Government's thinking is provided by recently confirmed plans to move the entire black population of the Cape Town area, between 250,000 and 300,000 people, to a new township on the windswept sand dunes of False Bay, about 20 miles away, by the year 2000. The Government argues that this is a simple case of slum clearance.

MPs to get tax-free expenses

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

A Commons committee yesterday passed a clause in the Finance Bill exempting from tax a £6,163 expenses allowance for MPs, without one word of debate.

The additional costs allowance is designed to reimburse an MP "who necessarily incurs extra expenditure in staying away from his only or main residence for the purposes of performing his parliamentary duties."

Since it was introduced in 1971 the allowance has been taxable as an emolument, although MPs, like everyone else could claim for expenses incurred "wholly, exclusively or necessarily" in performing their duties.

Clause 28 of the Finance Bill frees the allowance from tax liability, but about 30 MPs who have been claiming tax against expenses substantially in excess of £6,163 will lose that entitlement.

When the clause was reached after 1 am yesterday, no one rose to speak and the clause was accepted unopposed.

It is understood, however, that there had been some nervousness on the Government's side of the House, Mr John Wakeham, the Chief Whip, was seen waiting outside the committee room and Mr Edward du Cane, chairman of the Conservative backbench 1922 Committee went into the room at the time the clause was called.

Some MPs suspect that the change is designed to compensate backbenchers for the Government's failure to increase salaries in line with recommendations from the Top Salaries Review Body.

Other MPs suspect that some of the claims for expenses in excess of £6,163 have been so "horrendous" that the Treasury has been forced to take action.

Either way, ministers were keen that little publicity should be given to the delicate and potentially embarrassing operation.

Woolwich may raise all mortgage rates

Woolwich Equitable, the only big building society not to charge extra for large loans, is considering putting up its mortgage rate for all borrowers instead. Peter Wilson-Smith, Our Banking Correspondent, writes.

Most societies have a differential rate structure. Much of their lending, usually on loans over £25,000 and sometimes on amounts as small as £15,000, is carried out above the Building Societies Association's advised mortgage rate of 10.25 per cent.

Woolwich is under pressure to do something because it has been flooded with mortgage applications. At present it favours introducing its own mortgage rate, slightly above the BSA's advised rate, the next time there is a change in building society rates.

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Jenkins calls for union 'co-op' to handle pay claims by staff

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Mr Clive Jenkins, whose own union's employees are taking industrial action over a pay claim has raised the prospect of unions forming an employer's style of federation to handle wage negotiations in the future.

Mr Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs has written to the general secretaries of more than 60 unions calling for cooperation among union leaders over staff relations.

ASTMS staff who are members of the Association of Professional Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex) have been taking industrial action over a 3.8 per cent pay offer which has been rejected by the 220 office workers. They are taking part in stoppages one day each week and banning overtime.

Mr Jenkins's letter said: "A number of unions have expressed interest in the possibility of a collective response and indeed one idea being canvassed is that we should have a common collective bargaining forum. At the very least we ought to have an exchange of information on the salaries and conditions."

"It may well be that this should be a matter for a meeting. We are not at this point suggesting a common 'employers federation' approach but a liaison on data seems sensible," the letter says.

The ASTMS dispute is the second extensive programme of official disruption organized by Apex in union offices in the past six weeks. Staff at the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union

staged a four-week strike over the union's plan to declare compulsorily redundant its data-control manager.

That dispute has now gone to Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC who has been asked to recommend a settlement.

Apex organizes staff in almost 70 unions and has negotiating agreements with about three quarters of the leading unions. It has an arm's length relationship with many unions because it regards some as bad employers.

Civil Service rift

A left-wing move to press for the resignation of Mr Alistair Graham as leader of the largest Civil Service union ended in disarray yesterday after a split between the Militant Tendency and other left groups in the union.

Mr Graham, general secretary of the politically volatile Civil and Public Services Association, had given a warning beforehand that he would resign and seek reelection if the resignation call had been backed by the union conference.

An alliance of right-wingers and a loose grouping of Communists, Labour Party left supporters and the Socialist Workers Party prevented the resignation motion being discussed.

The split in the left arose through fears that in a subsequent election Mr Graham would win a crushing victory over Militant's choice, Mr John MacCreadie.

Leading article, page 13

Car discount 'madness' attacked

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Mr Alan Dix, director general of the Motor Agents Association, yesterday attacked the discount war being waged by the big car manufacturers as "a collective madness". Three out of every four dealers were selling new cars at "suicidally" unprofitable prices.

He said that anonymous showroom visits by the association, which represents most of Britain's 8,000 franchised car dealers, revealed that 75 per cent offered unsolicited discounts of up to 15 per cent, £1,000 on the average family car.

He told a Heathrow conference of nearly 400 of the country's biggest car dealers that last year 2,401 motor traders went out of business because of the discount war.

"Regrettably there are as many as 40 per cent of franchised dealers who are about as professional as someone exploring the Amazon basin in a bathtub, armed with a golf umbrella for protection and a pocketful of Glacier Mints for sustenance," he said.

The salesman who gave discounted prices over the telephone was "foolish", because he played into the hands of the motorist who rang around until he found someone daft enough to give away all his profit.

The three children - Ian Ward, aged 15, speaking for all the families, said on TV: "Come home again. You have had your fun, just come home. We are all worried. Mr Loates - please let him phone up today."

The three children - Ian Ward, and Denise Boezalt and Emma Bishop, both aged 12, disappeared on Saturday after a visit to the Fairplay Arcade, in north London, where Mr Loates used to work.

All three families believe the disappearance was premeditated. Ian took his National Insurance card and birth certificate.

Sale room

London dealers in record bid for Dutch silver

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

An auction price record for Dutch silver was set by two London dealers, Koopman and Armitage, when they paid 880,000 Swiss francs (estimate 300,000 to 400,000 frs) or £275,000 at Sotheby's Geneva sale on Tuesday for two silver-gilt tazas, richly embossed with landscapes and allegorical nymphs, dating from around 1600.

The two dealers often bid in partnership. Ten days ago they set an auction price record for any silver object of £484,000 at Sotheby's in London. Both have rich clients among them Mr Al Tajir, the United Arab Emirates ambassador in London, but they refuse to act as agents at auction, buying on their own account for resale.

City tower block 'will sweep away disorder'

By Robin Young

The Mies van der Rohe tower block which Mr Peter Palumbo proposes to build adjacent to the Mansion House in the City of London would reveal and complement the architectural masterpieces in the area which sweeping away "a random disorder of dilapidated Victorian kitsch which could be only defended on grounds of nostalgia", a public inquiry at Guildhall was told yesterday.

Professor Colin Wilson, head of the department of architecture at Cambridge University

Correction

A report in *The Times* on April 5, should have stated that a crematorium must not be operated within 50 yards of a road or within 200 yards of people's homes.



Faces of grief: Relatives of Marie Payne, aged four, who was found dead in Epping Forest, watching near Barking Magistrates' Court, in Essex, yesterday when Colin James Evans, a lorry driver, was further remanded in custody for three days charged with

murdering the girl. Mr Evans, aged 44, of Russell Street, Reading, Berkshire, made no application for bail. Police put up barricades outside the court to hold back a crowd of about 200 people who gathered an hour before Mr Evans arrived. There were

jeers and boos when he left, his head covered by a blanket. As the police van was driven slowly past the barricades to the police station near by two men thumped its roof, denting it. An aunt of Marie Payne, collapsed on the pavement.

Labour in disarray over dispute

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Labour disarray over the miners' strike was yesterday exposed by strong criticism of Mr Neil Kinnock's leadership and a clear left-right rift over party support for industrial action which had not been endorsed by a national ballot.

Mr Dennis Skinner, the outspoken MP for Bolsover, told a meeting of the parliamentary Labour Party in the Commons that Mr Kinnock should force a debate on the 10-week strike.

He said afterwards: "I told them to get off the fence, stop shadow boxing, stop fudging and muddling: show some real leadership."

Mr Bill Keys, the general secretary of Sogat '82, the union, said yesterday that he would call all members out if the Government failed to meet the miners' pay demands. He was addressing the union's conference in Bournemouth, where delegates voted unanimously to answer a strike call.

Pit strike legality to be tested in court

By Paul Kintledge, Labour Editor

The legality of the miners' strike is to be tested in the High Court by moderate pitman from Nottinghamshire who want to carry on working.

Preliminary moves for an injunction against area and national leaders off the National Union of Mineworkers are expected to begin tomorrow, and the court case could have a critical bearing on the course of the ten-week oil stoppage.

The legal action has been started by three miners, Mr Colin Clarke and Mr Howard Shooter, both of Pye Hill colliery, and Mr John Liproot, of Sherwood pit, who are suing on behalf of themselves and other union members at their pits.

The application for an injunction against the strike comes as the National Coal Board chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, insists that the gulf between the two sides may not be as wide as hitherto thought. "I do not think we are very far apart - a great deal of rhetoric has been spoken that is not related to the situation."

"The dispute will be resolved when people get down to realizing what the future is. There are no winners and losers in this situation - everybody loses."

The discreet moves by pit managers and deputies' unions to get the NUM and the board to hold informal peace talks could be affected by the High Court case, which follows a writ issued against miners' leaders seeking an injunction against the union, pending hearing of the main complaint that the men are entitled to work unless the strike is made official, locally or nationally.

An all-out strike threatened by dockers in Scotland was averted yesterday after steel and transport union officials reached an undisclosed peace formula for the handling of coal supplies at Hunterston.

Dock workers had said that they would halt all Scotland's 30 ports from Monday in protest at the action of cranesmen who belong to the steel union defying a blacking order to unload coal.

Walker plea to miners

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for energy, yesterday appealed directly to striking miners who had been "duped into a pointless and futile strike by propaganda with a political motive."

In a London speech to the Coal Merchants' Federation he said: "If I could have one wish it would be that, this evening, every miner in the country could, in the peace of his own home, free of all harassment, contemplate the reality of what is on offer to him and his industry."

In making their choice, miners should weigh up five facts: no one who wanted to continue working as a miner would be prevented from doing so; the pay offer was greater than the power workers' and gas workers' settlement; no one was out to hush the industry; even a partial strike would threaten conversions, to coal; Britain could become a great coal exporting nation."

Police raid a second gay club in Soho

By Rupert Morris

Another Soho gay club was raided by the police on Tuesday night in what club managers were claiming yesterday was an intensified campaign in the aftermath of the Hampson affair.

Witnesses said they saw between 10 and 15 uniformed police entering the Colt Club in Berwick Street, apparently after being summoned by plainclothes police inside. They said the manager was arrested.

Staff in gay clubs near by said yesterday that the police have been making daily raids. But Mr Russell McLeod, manager of the Gay Theatre, also in Berwick Street, where Dr Hampson The Conservative

MP for Leeds North-West, was arrested after an alleged indecent assault on a plain-clothes policeman, said the police had not been to his club since the weekend, when Dr Hampson resigned as Parliamentary private secretary to Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence.

Scotland Yard said it had no news yesterday of the amendments to the Rules on plainclothes policing of clubs which Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, promised earlier this week to introduce. It is understood that these amendments will specifically ban plain-clothes police from acting as "agents provocateurs".

Thatcher is accused of 'encouraging conflict'

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Prime Minister was accused yesterday by Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, of encouraging industrial conflict because she finds it politically convenient.

In a fierce attack on the Government's attitude to unions he said that it had chosen to portray them as the enemies of society and was making a biased attempt to emasculate them because they represented an obstacle to the creation of the society Mrs Thatcher wanted to build.

The Government's approach, he told the Inland Revenue Staff Federation conference in Blackpool, was characterized not by a desire for industrial

peace and economic success but by blind prejudice and cynical bias.

Because the unions were opposed to intentionally increased unemployment and reduced public services they were denounced, denigrated and made scapegoats for the Government's economic failures, Mr Hattersley, Labour's chief spokesman on economic affairs said.

The Conservative Government's approach to the public sector was "take it or leave it". For the teachers there was to be no arbitration, no conciliation, no real negotiation - "just a crudely and incompetently presented offer."

No early publication of social security reports

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The findings of two of the Government's key inquiries in its wide-ranging review of the social security system will not be published separately before a green or white paper setting out the Government's proposals for change, it became clear yesterday.

The reviews - on supplementary benefit, benefits for children and young people and housing benefit - are also being conducted on a "nil cost" basis, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services indicated after announcing further details of the reviews.

With the inquiry on pensions under way, Mr Fowler said that there was a "working assumption" that the reviews will work within the present social security budget of £37,000m.

Ministers hope to consider their proposals at the end of the year.

The reviews by Mr Rhodes Boyson, the Minister responsible for social security, on benefits for children and young people, and by Mr Anthony Newton, the Minister responsible for the disabled, on supplementary benefit, will be coordinated by a central unit inside the Department of Health and Social Security. It will also work with the housing benefit review, chaired by Mr Jeremy Rowe, deputy chairman of the Abbey National Society, whose report is likely to be published.

The unit will also consider issues such as the part unemployment benefit plays in the social security system.

Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's spokesman on social services said that the reports were clearly to be "vetted" before publication.

Leading article, page 13

Racecourse groundsman 'given £50'

A racecourse groundsman told the jury in the "Flockton Grey" trial at York Crown Court yesterday that a "kick-back" man had rewarded him with £50 for information about the race at the centre of an alleged swindle.

Mr Albert Butes said that Mr "Curly" Wood, the bookmaker's assistant, had contacted him several times to ask about the condition of the Leicester course. He reported the £50 gift to the Clerk of the Course. The hearing continues today.

Silicon firm plans new British plant

By Jeremy Warner

Monsanto, the world's largest manufacturer of silicon for use in microelectronic chips, is to spend £35m over the next five years on a research and manufacturing facility at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, which will eventually employ more than 400.

The American company said it had chosen Milton Keynes as its European manufacturing base because of Britain's importance as a large and fast-growing manufacturing base for integrated circuits.

Milton Keynes was selected from 80 locations in eight

Skinner inquest

The morose, lonely man caught up in a secret war

From Richard Owen in Moscow and John Witherow

No 148 Leninsky Prospekt is a bleak, 16-storey tower block on the outskirts of Moscow. Dennis Skinner lived there alone on the twelfth floor.

He was morose, not given to socializing. He once had an alcohol problem, but mastered that and became obsessed with his health, consuming vitamins and jogging.

Mr Skinner had lived in Moscow for 13 years and, like many an expatriate who wriths in the atmosphere of constant suspicion, he suffered fits of depression. His diary revealed an intensely lonely and isolated man.

But Mr Skinner was a much-respected member of the business community, one of the most experienced and least volatile of a group that is prepared for Moscow's social wasteland.

It was a shock when on June 15, 1983, he delivered a note to a neighbour, Mrs Valerie Cane. It said that he might be arrested at the Queen's official birthday party that evening and that he could identify a spy in the British security services.

Asking her to contact the embassy, he added: "Do this or I am dead."

At the reception, Mr John Burnett, the security officer, spoke to Mr Skinner who seemed more sanguine.

Afterwards the embassy took him to a dacha outside Moscow where, sitting in front of loudspeakers to lessen the risk of bugging, he explained his fears.

Interviewed for three hours

Never, Mr Burnett told the inquest in Croydon, Surrey, did he question Mr Skinner about a British spy. He said it was better left with London and that he had immediately sent the security services to note.

Mr Skinner had been in contact with MI6, as if his wife alleged, it may have been known to only one or two embassy staff.

The next day, Mr Skinner was interviewed for three hours at the embassy in secure room. Mr Skinner told Mr Burnett and Mr David Ratford, the minister, that he had been in touch with the KGB for many years and that his contact, "Alec", bore a grudge and was determined to have him arrested.

Alec wanted Mr Skinner to persuade Lyudmilla to return to Moscow. They failed and Alec faced being disciplined by the KGB.

That version was challenged by Mrs Skinner. She said no one had tried to get her to return.

But Mr Skinner thought that Alec might use threats for his arrest. The embassy did not seem to take Mr Skinner too seriously.

The next morning, Mr Skinner telephoned Mr Ratford at 5.45am. Speaking on a line that was almost certainly tapped, he said the charge was espionage and they would keep him like cabbage to control his wife. "Have you got the message?" he asked enigmatically.

Within three hours Mr Skinner was dead. His broken, barefoot body lay hundreds of feet beneath the open windows of his apartment, a track-top over his head. Neighbours heard a sound like a distant gunshot.

The Russian police carried out a post-mortem examination and said that his apartment had



The coroner, Dr Mary McHugh, acquired a certain notoriety for trying to hold the case in camera because she suggested British Intelligence was involved.

Lord Justice Watkins described her as a "mistress of discretion" and very shrewd when overruling her in March in the High Court.

The Foreign Office, Home Office and Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, told Dr McHugh that national security was not at issue.

Dr McHugh, aged 68, whose mother was French, repeatedly clashed with counsel for the Crown, Mr Andrew Collins, who had stated that he might ask for a hearing in camera if the case became sensitive.

At the end of her summing up Mr Collins tried to point out inaccuracies in her version of events but he was overruled. Although Dr McHugh instructed the jury not to return a verdict because of lack of evidence, she did not rule out a verdict of unlawful killing.

But her description of the open verdict as "a great waste of time and public money" will not please the many judges who have emphasized that it is a perfectly respectable verdict.

been locked from inside. They said it was a clear case of suicide.

But no one who knew Mr Skinner well believed he was the sort to kill himself. He had also given every indication that he would be returning to England on June 20.

His son Alexander, said Lyudmilla, was his religion. His obsession with his health was so he would live to see his grandchildren.

The version most widely accepted in Moscow is that Mr Skinner was being threatened to persuade his family to return.

The allegation is unanswered

What seemed likely was that he had maintained links with the KGB, possibly out of fear of reprisals to his family, and had told the British about these meetings. MI6 would naturally wish to know what information they sought.

To call him a double agent would be to glamourise his role. It seems he was caught in the middle of the secret war between East and West.

Yet his allegations of a spy in the British security services still remains.

It has been linked with the arrest three months later of Michael Bettaney, who tried to pass information to the Russians in London.

Mr Ratford, asked at the inquest about the claim, said it was an allegation only. He did not say that Mr Skinner was wrong.



The widow, Lyudmilla Skinner, aged 39, Russian-born but now a British citizen. Approached by the KGB in 1976 and told that Skinner was making her romance public to try to contact the Soviet secret police. She tried to warn him but he started liaison with two KGB controllers. Returned to Harrow, north London, in 1981 to oversee education of two sons.

The victim, Dennis Skinner, MBE, aged 54, representative in Moscow of ICL, between 1968-74. Divorced from English wife, he married his secretary, Lyudmilla. One son, Alexander, aged eight, adopted, returned to London with Russian wife and trained as banker. Returned to Moscow 1976 to represent Midland Bank

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PARLIAMENT May 16 1984

Minister insists
BAe must stay
under UK control

MERGER

If the proposed merger between Thomson-EMI and British Aerospace is to go ahead, the Government will require the new company to agree arrangements which would ensure that the company would not pass outside United Kingdom control, Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, said in a Commons statement.

He added that the precise nature of these arrangements would need to be determined in the light of circumstances.

Reporting on the announcement that the boards of Thomson-EMI and British Aerospace are having talks to explore the possibility of a merger, Mr Lamont said such a merger would not be considered by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act, so that he could decide whether investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was justified.

No decision on this point could be reached until details of a proposal had been studied and a recommendation received from the Director General of Fair Trade.

The Government (said) will also require an undertaking that British Aerospace's participation in the Airbus programmes will continue.

Subject to these considerations and to studying the details of any proposal which may emerge from the present exploratory discussions, the Government will not possibly be able to justify using its shareholding in British Aerospace to impede such a merger if it proved acceptable to a majority of the remaining shareholders.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said it was a thoroughly bad and muddled statement, and possibly a disgraceful statement. It was an astonishingly passive approach by the Government to an industry in which it had major responsibility.

Does he think it is possible (he asked) to allow a firm successful in colour television and video and in marketing various pop groups to have responsibility for looking after the development of Britain's biggest company in civil and military aviation and missile technology?

He asked for a renewed undertaking that the words used by the previous Secretary of State, about

no large proportion of shares falling into foreign hands, would stand.

If not we shall want to bring him to account (he said). There will have to be a major debate because you cannot give undertakings of this kind and lightly abandon them.

It was vital to defend the future of the aerospace industry that it must remain under Government control.

Mr Lamont said that Mr Shore was over-reacting. The Government position was that subject to the requirements he had listed, it was essentially neutral. If those considerations were satisfied he did not see why a merger should not go ahead. It would be wrong for him to comment on the industrial merits of the proposal.

The Government intended to maintain voting rights of more than 25 per cent in the company.

When the company might become merged, there would be an entirely new situation but the purpose of the Government shareholding was to ensure that control of British Aerospace remained within United Kingdom control and that commitment still applied.

Mr Michael Gyrill (North-West Surrey, C) British governments have been well served by an efficient and competitive defence industry in which, until the 1977 Act they had no share. So ownership of shares is of no necessity.

Will the minister give a categorical assurance that he will do nothing to interfere in the proper workings of the market but simply act as would any shareholder?

Mr Lamont: There are many important defence companies which are competitive and in which the Government has no shareholding and in which there is no reason it should have.

It would be wrong if the Government used its shareholding to impose its view on others.

Mr Bruce Millan (Glasgow, Govan, Lab): As the Government has a 48 per cent share, this merger can only go ahead with positive Government encouragement and approval and it is irresponsible for the minister to say that it will be left to other shareholders, particularly in view of the undertakings about the privatization, which might soon be breached by the Government.

Mr Lamont: It is not irresponsible. It has been privatized and it would be wrong to go on treating it as if it were in the public sector.

Mr Michael Marshall (Arun, C) said the employee shareholding



Park: Government cannot stay at arm's length

scheme at the BAe had been successful.

Mr Lamont: Employee shareholders have about 4 per cent of the shares. Under the law, the same offer must be made to them as to other shareholders. They will have the opportunity to participate in the future of their company.

Mr Andrew Mackay (East Derbyshire, C) asked if launch aid for civil aircraft projects would be available if the merger went ahead.

Mr Lamont: Launch aid is available for companies in the private sector regardless of the structure. This company would continue to be eligible for launch aid.

Mr George Park (Coventry North East, Lab): Since the Government is still a major shareholder surely the House is entitled to hear what the Government thinks of this proposal? It cannot stand back with this arm's length relationship. The Government must have made an assessment of the sheer competence of the people who propose to take on this company.

Mr Lamont: These are early days and no decision has been reached yet. We must await such details. This company has been privatized. Mr Park may wish it was in the public sector but it is not.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selby, C): If I was a Thorco shareholder, I would not touch it with a barge pole. I have received the proposal and I have received the proposal and I have received the proposal.

He said the proposal should go to the Monopolies Commission so that property was seen to be done.

Mr Shore: Will he ensure that we will retain 25 per cent of the total shares?

Mr Lamont: The purpose of the 25 per cent shareholding of which we gave an undertaking, was to ensure there would be no foreign takeover.

We now have a new situation. Of course we will not give up our shareholding to prevent a takeover of a vital British national industry and we will be looking at some appropriate way of doing this if the merger goes through.

Scottish police acting within the law

COAL DISPUTE

The police in Scotland had acted within the law during the miners' strike, Mr Peter Fraser Solicitor General for Scotland, said when Scottish MPs complained about police tactics adopted by the police. During questions to the Commons, Mr Fraser said that up to yesterday 504 people had been arrested and charged by police.

Most had been charged with either breach of the peace or obstructing the police, although other charges including vandalism and possession of an offensive weapon had also been brought.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk, West, Lab) said busloads of miners were arrested near Glasgow after police ordered them to stop their journey to Hunterston. This was an excessive use of police powers. It was doing untold damage to police-community relations. To restore public confidence in the police, the Solicitor General asked the Lord Advocate to instruct the Procurator Fiscal to drop all pending charges.

Otherwise (he continued) he will be encouraging the belief that we are

on the verge of a police state. (Conservative protest)

Mr Fraser said if anyone was seeking to upset the well-established pattern of prosecutions in Scotland it was Mr Canavan. There was a clear and settled system whereby the police made reports to the Procurator Fiscal who made an independent assessment to decide if there should be prosecutions.

The cases Mr Canavan had mentioned were sub judice but the Scottish police had authority where they apprehended that there was a prospect of breach of the peace or another offence. They had the right to ensure that that offence did not take place.

They should be supported (he said) in the difficult and delicate tasks they have. It is not for Mr Canavan or his colleagues to seek to arrogate to themselves responsibility for determining if there had been a breach of the law in Scotland.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn (Perth and Kinross, C) if people came to busloads to stop other people going to work they are committing offences which may be more serious than breach of the peace, maybe mobbing or rioting.

Mr Fraser: I am grateful for his clear perception of the law. Mr Fairbairn's predecessor in office has also told the Labour Party in Scotland and the Scottish TUC that the Scottish police are acting in the law, within the law but that if they have operated outside the law it is a matter for the Scottish courts to determine and nobody else.

Mr Marjory Ross (Leeds, South and Morley, Lab) asked if advice to chief constables or was it a judgment they made themselves without any advice from a law officer?

Mr Fraser said no specific advice was given. Chief constables and police officers were aware of their powers under the Police (Scotland) Act, 1967, passed by a Labour Government.

Mr Michael Forsyth (Stirling, C) said there was more concern about the bootlegging on the picket lines and the intimidation on the doorsteps of homes in the early hours of the morning.

Mr Fraser said some Labour MPs were more upset because people had been charged with offences which

did not particularly relate to industrial disputes but to breaches of the peace, use of weapons, assault and obstructing the highway. These regularly came before the courts.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said people were worried about the extraordinarily wide use of police powers under the Police (Scotland) Act, 1967, particularly the way that fundamental rights of individuals to move about the country had been infringed on the rather doubtful premise that at some future date an offence might be committed.

Mr Fraser said the general proposition put by Mr Dewar was ludicrously wide. The police to date had operated within the existing law. If, in a particular case, they had gone beyond their powers it was for the courts to determine.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Ordnance Factories and Military Services Bill, report. Motion for spring adjournment. Lords (3.00): London Regional Transport Bill, committee, second day.

Concern at
denial of
right to buy

HOUSING

Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, made it clear in a Commons written reply, that he would not accept the proposal put forward by county councils to deprive their tenants of their right to buy under the provisions of the Housing and Building Control Bill by extending their term before the Bill came into force.

Mr Derek Conway, (Shrewsbury and Aitcham, C) had asked Mr Gow what recent representations he had received alleging that some county councils were taking serious aim at the right to buy by extending their term before the Bill came into force.

Mr Gow: I am aware of reports that tenants are being terminated in order to frustrate the intentions of the Bill. County councils are currently in a position to terminate many of their tenants at a month's notice. They will remain in the position until the Housing and Building Control Bill comes into effect. The police do not want that and nor do I.

It follows that county councils are in some cases able to frustrate the intentions of the Bill by extending their term before the Bill comes into force. The police do not want that and nor do I.

The Bill makes provision for certain tenants to be exempted from security of tenure. The exceptions have been considered by both Houses of Parliament. Parliament has decided on a balance between the reasonable expectations of tenants and the need for county councils to retain control of housing needed for operational purposes.

There may be some cases in which it may be appropriate for a county council to adjust its tenancy arrangements in the light of the detailed provisions in the Bill. I regard it as particularly indefensible if any tenant were to be evicted from a dwelling which is surplus to operational requirements simply so that that dwelling might be sold on the open market with vacant possession at a higher price.

European
elections

The following additions should be made to the list of candidates published yesterday for the European elections on June 14: London North East: Batchelor, M. (C).

Loughans: Hendry, Miss L. (Scott, I). Independent candidate is N. Martin.

The Westminster constituencies King up the Bedfordshire South European constituency should have included Stevenage and West Hertfordshire instead of Watford and Welwyn Hatfield.

Cost of Greenham
Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State, Home Office, in a written reply, said he understood that the Thames Valley police authority estimated the cost of police Greenham Common since December 1982 to be just over £4m.

Framework for modern policing

POLICE BILL

The Police and Criminal Evidence Bill remained both a law and order and a civil liberties measure, Mr Lord Birtles, the Home Secretary, said in moving its third reading in the Commons.

A proper balance between the interests of society in curbing crime and the interests of the individual in the protection of his privacy, was maintained throughout. The Bill's approach of clarifying the present state of the law to give the police the powers they need and the public the safeguards that had the right to expect, was an essential part of his overall strategy to create more effective policing.

The Bill had received a thorough and searching review in committee and in the House which had placed amendments. Although the amendments improved the Bill its structure and principal provisions remained intact.

Mr Birtles said the Bill was a right legal framework for modern policing. Its critics had desperately tried to portray it as a vehicle for oppression, but the reverse was the truth. It was in the interests of society and the police that powers and safeguards should be clarified and set on a firm legal footing.

Policing which took place in a grey world of confusion between legality and illegality had no place in a modern society. The police did not want that and nor did the public.

The public (he said) are shocked and rightly so when tragic incidents occur in police custody, but we cannot expect the police to prevent disturbed or dangerous people from inflicting wounds on themselves or those around them if we do not insure that the police have the power to have a doctor conduct or in the last resort themselves conduct a medical examination to remove concealed weapons.

It is crucial (he said) that stronger, better, clearer safeguards should be provided for the individual in those areas where police powers are necessarily extended and to the police and the public. The Bill was little more than a clarification. But, above all, there was the provision for detention without charge for up to 36 hours and detention without charge communicated for up to 36 hours. This was the most unacceptable infringement of liberty.

of professional conduct would recognize these crucial points.

The Bill was based around the key principles that the law governing the investigation of crime must be open, fair and practicable. It struck a fair balance between necessary powers and appropriate safeguards.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said almost all the beneficial changes in the Bill had come about as a result of Opposition pressure and not because of the Government's goodwill and wisdom.

There was now legal representation for policemen facing disciplinary charges and the possibility of a code of practice on stop and search. There were improvements in the system of detention and a tighter definition of intimate body samples. Also added were greater safeguards for people forcibly fingerprinted and a tighter definition of a serious arrestable offence.

But the Bill was still profoundly unpopular. Stop and search powers were still intolerably wide. So were the road search and road block powers. Police could still forcibly carry out intimate searches.

The definition of journalistic material was still ludicrously imprecise and was a danger to press freedom. To claim that the Government had clarified the definition of journalistic material was another example of Mr Birtles' lack of familiarity with his own Bill.

On accountability, the Bill was little more than a clarification. But, above all, there was the provision for detention without charge for up to 36 hours and detention without charge communicated for up to 36 hours. This was the most unacceptable infringement of liberty.

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Police Federation representatives had told him that they did not want the Bill which imposed a mountain of bureaucracy.

The law society did not like it and certainly defenders of civil liberties did not like it because it contained unprecedented infringements of civil liberties.

The Bill would do nothing to fight crime but would erode the liberties of millions of innocent people, because most of those stopped and searched or detained without charge would be innocent.

The next Labour Government would repeal the Bill.

Mr Roger Sims (Chislehurst, C) said it was a good Bill but he had reservations about the removal of the power of the police to make routine searches for evidence. He also expressed concern about the cost of having magistrates' courts and officials standing by at weekends.

Mr Robin Corbett (Birmingham, Edgbaston, Lab) said it was a dangerous Bill which was totally wrong direction. Someone wrongly stopped and searched was potentially a friend lost to the police.

Mr David Ashby (North West Leicestershire, C) said he was going to vote against the Bill. A Bill which with such wide constitutional implications demanded consensus.

The most important part concerned the 36 hours detention without charge. With this maximum period of detention there was going to be less respect for the law and there might well be less respect for the police.

This (he said) is an important Bill in respect of civil liberties. There are parts of the Bill which are good but they are mere minnows when compared with the whale of the period of detention.

Mr Robert Maclean (Cairness and Sutherland, SDP) said the progress of the Bill through the Commons had not brought the improvements which would have enabled the SDP and Liberal parties to support the third reading.

The most serious defect was undoubtedly that relating to detention without trial. He did not think in a civilized society such a provision ought to stand.

The Bill was read the third time by 286 votes to 190 - government majority, 96.

Mr Younger: I have a responsibility to look after the national economy and Scotland's part in it. That is why I have to maintain my responsibility to make sure that no one spends more than the country can afford. I am still considering what suit to wear.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, SNP): Why is he refusing to give any additional money earmarked for curing dampness in houses whereas he is prepared to allow the Treasury to give Northern Ireland over £40m oil revenue to which it is not entitled?

Mr Younger: The most relevant thing to discuss with Costa is why it was that £22m allocated for the maintenance of the Treasury was forgone last year by irresponsible decisions of Labour authorities in Scotland. It could have been spent on eliminating the worst of the dampness.

The son of a banker told two people he was unhappy with life at Oxford University before he killed himself by lying in front of a train, an inquest was told in Oxford.

Andrew Touche, aged 19, went for a meal with a friend and wrote a note to his college chaplain the night his body was discovered near Oxford station.

The son of Sir Anthony Touche, of Dorking, Surrey, deputy chairman of the National Westminster Bank and a former partner of the chartered accountants Touche Ross, he was a first year student at Jesus College, reading philosophy and modern languages.

The jury returned a verdict of suicide.

Appeal move by Bettaney
Michael Bettaney, aged 34, the M15 counter-espionage officer from Coulsdon, Surrey, who was jailed for 2½ years last month for offering to spy for the Soviet Union, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction.

His application is unlikely to be heard before October.

Bill to stop
political
advertising

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Mrs Angela Rumbold (Micheam and Morden, C) was given leave by 232 votes to 141 to move a Bill to bring in a Bill to prevent local authorities from incurring expenditure on advertising for party political purposes.

She said that to date the Greater London Council had spent in excess of £3m in this way, Sheffield and Lambeth had both produced videos to market their campaigns.

Over the past few months advertisements had been displayed in newspapers on a regular basis criticizing Government policy.

Money for political advertising should come from sources in full knowledge of the purpose for which it was to be spent.

Funds from rates and taxes should not be used for political purposes. Her Local Authorities (Prevention of Expenditure on Party Political Advertising) Bill would ensure this by amending the Local Government Act 1972.

Mr Frank Dobson (Holt and St Pancras, Lab), opposing the Bill, said the law on this matter was quite clear. Under section 137 of the Local Government Act an authority could incur expenditure for any purpose which in his opinion was in the interests of its area and its inhabitants.

Mrs Rumbold apparently objected to efforts to inform local people of the consequences of the abolition of the GLC and the six metropolitan authorities. This was not a party political matter.

The Conservative Party (he said) wish to abolish certain councils and not content with that they want them to say "It's a fair cop" and come quietly.

Virtually all the London embassies of other EEC member states have mounted a vigorous campaign to ensure that as many as possible of their 600,000 citizens living in Britain can vote in next month's European elections.

This contrasts sharply with the lack of activity by British embassies on the Continent where most British residents are still without a vote.

Since the Community's 170 million or so voters last had their chance to vote for members of the European Parliament in Strasbourg in 1979, a number of member states, including Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg have made special arrangements to enable their citizens living in other parts of the Community to take part in what is meant to be a pan-European exercise in democracy. Others such as the Netherlands and France have such facilities already.

The most ambitious and complex scheme to get their nationals to the Euro-polls is being mounted by the Italians.

Uneconomic capacity a
burden on coal industry

HOUSE OF LORDS

The mining dispute should be ended as quickly as possible, if the coal industry is to avoid the great potential advances that lay ahead of it, Lord Edd, a former chairman of the NCB, said in opening a debate in the House of Lords on the need for a long-term energy strategy for the United Kingdom.

We have on the supply side of coal (he said) massive reserves of 45 billion tonnes of readily mineable coal which can last more than 300 years at present rates of extraction.

That was backed up by a highly skilled team of technicians and mine workers and great expertise in the extraction and use of solid fuel.

In spite of the decline in demand for energy, coal was in a strong position to compete with oil. In the long term there was the prospect of growth in coal demand throughout western Europe while some would be met from home resources, would provide an invitation to the British mining industry to compete.

Coal also represented the largest fossil energy source in the world and was going to be needed as far ahead as could be seen, whatever other forms of fuel were developed.

The time had come for a broad review of energy strategy and it should be repeated every five years.

Lord Campbell of Croy (C) said long-term and broad energy strategy must be based on a supply of coal and gas and a hard and fast plan. Coal must be kept competitive and saleable. Britain was the largest producer of coal in Europe and there were vast coal and economic resources which would continue to be used when all the oil had been extracted.

The Earl of Halsbury (Ind) said that among the illusions from which Mr Scargill suffered was the belief that the Government was trying to

extinguish the coal industry. They needed coal at economic prices.

Lord Diamond (SDP) said the Government had a responsibility to concern itself with the social consequences of its industrial policies and of the market forces in which it believed. He saw no reason why an attempt should not be made to repeat for the coal industry the experiment which had been so successful for the steel industry.

The miners' leadership had rejected a ballot in favour of a political battle and the Government could not avoid a political response. Its present state of seeming to be indifferent to what was happening provided Mr Scargill not only with a platform but also a pedestal.

The Earl of Aros, Under Secretary of State for Energy, replying to the debate, said this Government, more than any other in history, had been willing to back its belief in the future of the coal industry with money and investment in modernization.

Miners had been given a high pay offer and generous redundancy and transfer terms and no miner had been made compulsorily redundant.

The Government's aim was to secure a productive and profitable coal industry for the future by massive investment designed to produce coal at a price that customers at home and abroad would buy.

Nuclear power had firmly established itself as a supply option for the UK and the Government expected it to play a significant role in meeting future energy needs.

The Government's approach was to encourage the maximum economic exploitation of energy resources, not by central direction, but by clearing the way for producers and consumers to reach the best possible understanding in the market.

The debate was concluded.

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Cost of Greenham
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Boys queue to become choristers

Would-be choristers are queuing to compete for places in Britain's choir schools, despite earlier fears that there might not be enough applicants to fill the available places.

Head teachers and deans pleaded at Christmas time for more applicants from a wider range of social backgrounds, to save the choir schools and maintain their standards.

In a survey of 26 of the country's 40 choir schools, whose head teachers attended last week's annual meeting of the Choir Schools Association,

Defending the West

Nato ministers fall out over £11bn budget

From Frederick Bonnart, Brussels

Nato's defence planning committee failed here last night to agree on a ceiling for the new common infrastructure programme. Ministers leaving the first day's session were seriously concerned as this was the first time that an agreement on an infrastructure programme for Nato had been withheld.

General Cornelius de Jager, chairman of Nato's military committee, said that he had warned ministers of the military consequences of the failure by member countries to supply the requested funds. He underlined the increasing qualitative im-

provements of the Warsaw Pact forces which were eroding the technological advantage of the West.

He said that it was essential to introduce weapon systems based on emerging technology to restore the balance. Ministers will discuss this subject today.

The infrastructure programme pays for common user items, such as runways, aircraft shelters, ammunition and equipment storage sites for cruise and Pershing 2 missiles.

"We are talking here about an overall 0.25 per cent of Nato budgets", a senior American official said, "and the reception of essential American reinforcements for Europe depends on it."

Heavy equipment for five American divisions is to be stored in Europe so that the personnel can be moved in rapidly in time of crisis.

The countries were not prepared to fund the £11 billion requested by the military commanders. But the United States proposed a ceiling of approximately £7bn, Britain £5.6bn and West Germany and most of the others £3.72bn.

Herr Manfred Woerner, the German Minister of Defence, was prepared to raise this amount by approximately £300m which the United States considered to be inadequate. However, as Herr Woerner said that he had no authority to raise the amount, any further, the meeting adjourned in disagreement. Ministers will discuss the matter again this morning.

Reagan man rejected

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Controversy continues to plague the United States Information Agency (USIA), the propaganda arm of the American Government, which has been at the centre of a continuous series of disputes since President Reagan appointed his friend, Mr Charles Wick, as its director three years ago.

On Tuesday the Republican-dominated Senate foreign relations committee rejected the nomination of Mr Leslie Lenkowsky, to become the

agency's deputy-director. Several Senators claimed Mr Lenkowsky had lied to the committee about his role in blacklisting people from the agency's overseas speaking programme.

Mr Lenkowsky has the dubious distinction of being the first of President Reagan's nominees to be rejected outright by a Senate committee. The committee had previously sent the names of two other Reagan nominees to the Senate floor with negative recommendations.



Nato meeting: Mr Heseltine, British Defence Minister (left), with Chief of Staff Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall in Brussels yesterday.

Pentagon fears cuts will cancel progress

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The fighting capability of the United States has increased markedly in four years of military build-up, according to a detailed military evaluation by the Pentagon. It gives warning that the progress could be threatened by future budget cuts.

The 124-page report points to substantial improvements in the quality of personnel and equipment but emphasize that there are problems in force readiness and ability to sustain military action.

A summary of the report by the Department of Defence presented a picture of steady improvements in every area. Mr William Taft, Deputy Defence Secretary, said that Congress and the American people should know that they had "got the increased military capability they paid for".

Mr Taft and General Paul Kelley, Commandant of the Marine Corps, issued appeals to Congress to approve a 5.5 per cent military pay rise next year to retain qualified people. The House armed services com-

mittee has recommended a 3.5 per cent increase.

The Pentagon report was intended to offset suggestions in leaked internal Pentagon reports that military readiness in some categories had declined despite sharply increased military expenditure by the Reagan Administration.

Senator Sam Nunn, the leading Democrat on the Senate armed services committee, had questioned whether the Pentagon was buying new weapons faster than it was buying back-up spare parts and equipment for them.

Despite the generally rosy picture painted by the report, it does point to a decline on Army and Air Force readiness.

Costs of maintenance are rising sharply, according to the report. "Even though more efficient and cost-saving methods have been developed for complex new equipment, costs have proven to be greater as we transition from the mechanical to the electronic age."

Kohl forced to withdraw amnesty on taxes

From Michael Einyon, Bonn

Faced with a humiliating Parliamentary defeat and an open split within the coalition, the Government yesterday withdrew its controversial amnesty for more than 3,000 people accused of tax and other irregularities in making political donations.

The decision was made after a meeting between the Christian Democrats (CDU) and their Free Democratic (FDP) coalition partners, who were overwhelmingly opposed to the Bill. It came only a few hours before a meeting of the FDP Parliamentary group, which was expected to vote decisively against the amnesty in spite of its support by Herr Hans-Deitrich Genscher, the party leader.

The government sent a letter to Herr Rainer Barzel, President of the Bundestag, telling him the Bill, due for a first reading on May 24, had now been withdrawn. The opposition Social Democrats (SPD), who had called the amnesty a "grave blow to the conception of law", immediately welcomed the move, as did the Greens.

Chancellor Kohl insisted only on Tuesday that he would push for a debate on the proposal in Parliament even without the Bill.

But in a clear sign of anger with his Liberal partners, his Christian Democratic Party spokesman said the CDU and the Bavarian-based Christian Social Union (CSU) "acknowledge with regret that the FDP's decision means there is no longer a majority for the Bill in parliament."

The fiasco, deeply wounding to the Government and to Herr Kohl's prestige, comes only two weeks after the amnesty was announced at the end of many months of secret deliberations. It has already led to strong criticism within the FDP of Herr Genscher's leadership, and threatened to unsettle him at the coming Party congress next month.

Yesterday the affair led to sharp polemics between the FDP and the CSU, led by Herr Franz Josef Strauss, which accused Herr Genscher of unreliability. The CSU party organ *Bayernkurier* said that Herr Genscher's treachery and volte-face were the worst blunder that had hit the coalition.

Government supporters were trying to play down the damage to the coalition yesterday.

Israeli forces blow up refugee homes in Lebanon

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israeli forces in southern Lebanon have mounted a big security operation inside the Ein Hilwe Palestinian refugee camp which, military sources claim, has been pinpointed as the starting place for many recent ambushes against Israeli troops.

According to Israel radio, the houses of two Arab residents of the sprawling, insanitary camp were blown up by sappers after arms and explosives had been coaxed into them. The camp is close to the centre of Sidon, the largest city under Israeli occupation.

The controversial punishment of demolishing homes has been frequently employed against suspected Palestinian terrorists living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, where it is sanctioned under emergency regulations originally drawn up in 1945, during the British mandate of Palestine.

But to the anger of many Israeli doves, the Government has not so far employed it against the West Bank homes of any of the 37 Jewish settlers now under arrest for suspected involvement in a terror campaign against Arabs.

Conflicting reports have emerged about casualties at Ein Hilwe, which is estimated by the Israelis to house around 24,000 Palestinians, the majority of them women and children. Israeli military sources claim that only two refugees were wounded after resisting.

Israel hopes the 2,500-strong militia will eventually take over much of the policing of the south of Lebanon.

Mexican leader's visit ends in discord

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico told a joint session of Congress yesterday that his Government rejected "without exception, all military plans that would seriously endanger" the security and development of the region.

Without directly criticizing the Reagan Administration, his remarks appeared to amount to a call to the United States to disengage from military involvement in Central America. "This continent must not be a scenario for generalized violence that becomes increasingly difficult to control."

His speech demonstrated a clear disagreement with President Reagan's assertion that pro-Soviet groups are at the heart of conflicts in the region.

Hungarians withdraw from the Olympics

Budapest (Reuters) - Hungary yesterday withdrew from the Olympics, joining the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Vietnam, Laos, Afghanistan and Mongolia. The only Eastern Block countries still to declare their Olympic intentions are Poland and Romania.

The Hungarian Olympic Committee considers that the present conditions in the organization of the summer Olympics do not allow Hungarian athletes to participate in the Games, a statement issued by the official media said.

The committee "shares the concern of the respective Olympic committees of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and declares its solidarity with them."

US post for Harold Evans

New York - Mr Harold Evans, former editor of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, had been appointed editor-in-chief of the Atlantic Monthly Press, a division of the Atlantic Monthly Company, of Boston, Massachusetts. The post is newly-created, and Mr Evans, who will be based here, will start next month (Trevor Fishlock writes).

The Atlantic Monthly Press is the book-publishing section of the company which also owns the magazine, the *Atlantic*. Mr Evans's wife, Tina Brown, is editor of *Vanity Fair* in New York.

British protester freed in Italy

Rome - Jill Allison Howard, a British woman arrested last Friday when police dismantled pacifist camps near the cruise missile base at Comiso in Sicily, was released yesterday and told to leave Italy in five days (John Earle writes).

Two other women, an Australian and a New Zealander, were also freed and served with expulsion orders. Three West German men remain in prison.

French gloom

Paris - The number of unemployed in France rose by 52,000 last month to a total of 2,296,000. Prices rose by an estimated 0.6 per cent, bringing the total increase for the first four months of this year to 2.6 per cent.

Tonight at 9.30, a film about unwanted parents.



9.30 tonight on Channel Four, James Fox and Jane Asher star in "Runners."

2.30 Channel 4 Racing. The third day of the May Meeting at York.

4.30 Cartoon Carnival.

5.00 Countdown. The popular panel game which tests your skill with words and numbers.

5.30 Everybody Here.

6.00 Barriers.

6.30 Gardener's Calendar. Hannah Gordon with more seasonal advice about the garden, from planting rock gardens to pollinating apple trees.

7.00 Channel 4 News.

8.00 Survive. Nick Downie looks at the odds facing the survivors of a nuclear war.

9.00 Soap.

9.30 Runners. Convinced that his missing 11 year-old daughter is still alive, James Fox sets out to scour London's myriad railway stations and back alleys. Jane Asher co-stars in Charles Sturridge's acclaimed production.

11.30 Arlott in Conversation with Mike Brearley. The last of the series, in which John Arlott reminisces about cricket, pictures and wine.

12.25 Ian Breakwell's Continuous Diary.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON

4

Death squads on rampage Indonesia plagued by secret killings

From Robert Trumbull

Jakarta (NYT) - A typical killing begins when a group of armed men, unknown in the neighbourhood or village, appear at a door in the middle of the night. A man, later identified by the authorities as a criminal, is taken away by force.

In a day or so his bullet-riddled body is found near by, where it has been deposited after the killing in some more distant place. Sometimes the killers leave 10,000 rupiahs, about £7, on the body to cover the cost of burial.

In the case of Idrus Muhammad Soleh, aged 28, a school watchman in Jakarta, two men, one wearing a ski mask, threw open the door to the bedroom where he and his wife, Lisdawati, aged 23, were asleep one night in November. The masked men pulled out a pistol and fired two shots into the watchman's head. The intruders left ignoring his wife.

An account of the incident in the Hongkong news magazine, *Asiaweek* was obliterated with black ink by government censors before the publication was allowed to reach readers in Indonesia. Mr Soleh had no criminal record but he was a member of a Jakarta gang.

Unlike death squad operations reported in such countries as El Salvador and the Philippines, the killings in Indonesia are believed to be free of political motivation.

A human rights lawyer, who asked to be anonymous, estimated recently that there had been 3,000 to 4,000 such clandestine killings since President Suharto's Government began a vigorous anti-crime campaign about a year and a half ago.

Though the role of government agencies in the slayings is unclear, the victims are always identified by the authorities as known malefactors, usually

with police records linking them to crimes of violence. Many bodies bear tattoos, the traditional badge of the Indonesian gangster.

Some Indonesians have expressed concern, however, that people are being killed for reasons other than criminality or that some have been killed in error.

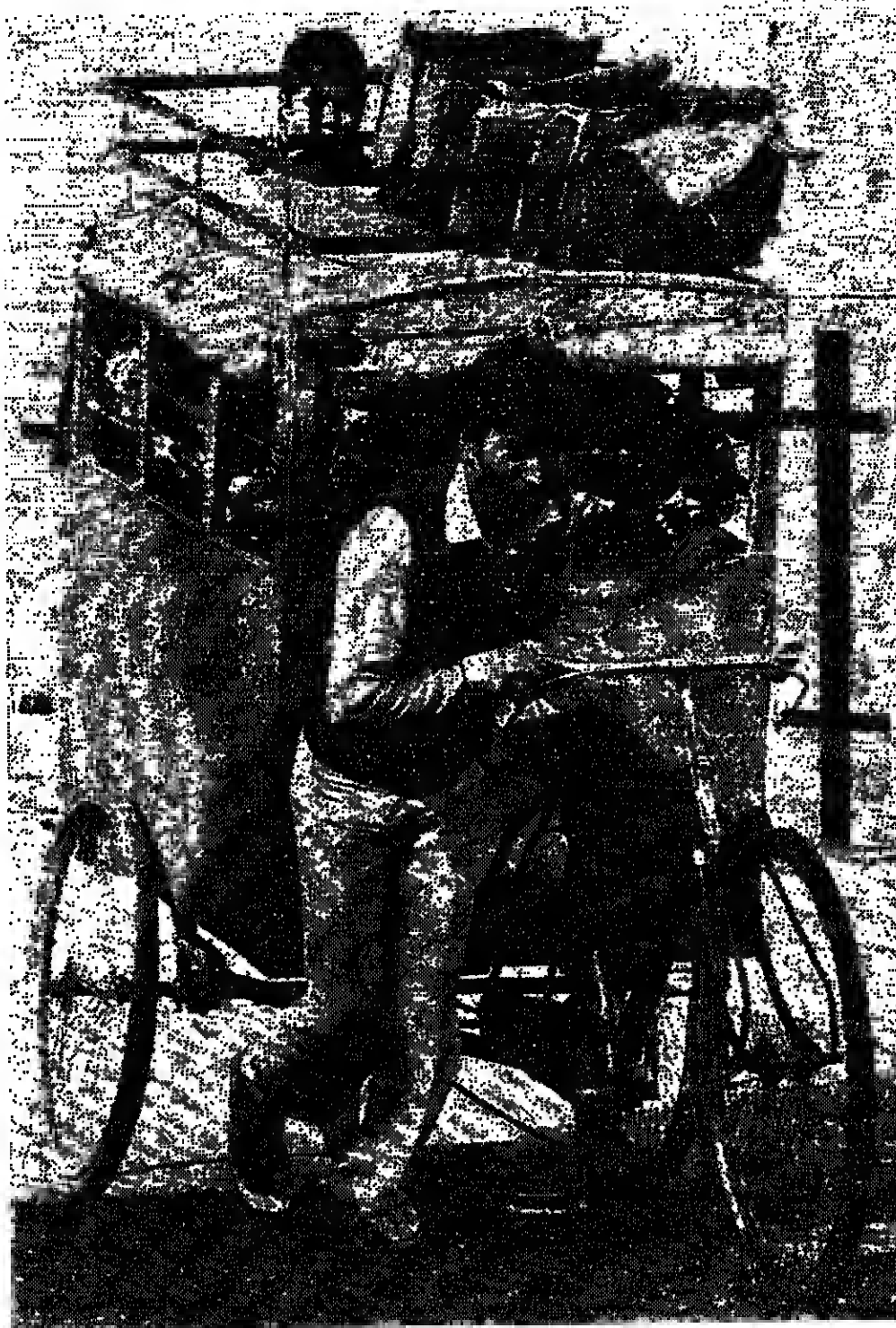
The uniform methodology of the killings indicates a centrally directed campaign to exterminate crime and hulleis recovered from bodies have shown that weapons used were the same as the standard army and police handguns.

A recent US State Department report said there was no verifiable estimate of the number of such killings. It added: "In published statements, government officials have indicated that hundreds were killed. Human rights groups claimed that there were up to 4,000 victims during 1983".

Since those responsible for the deaths were unknown, Indonesian newspapers referred to such incidents as "penembak misterius", or mysterious killings, until the Government ordered the strictly controlled press to stop reporting such cases last year. The term, though not seen in local publications now, caught on and is widely used.

Although human rights organizations here have been disturbed by the killings, Indonesians are unconcerned unless the victim is a relative, a writer on public affairs said. He also asked not to be identified.

People are relieved that it has become safer to walk the streets, a Jakarta editor said, alluding to a significant drop in the rate of reported crime since the mysterious killings in many parts of the country reached their height last year.



School wheels: This cheaply welded cage fixed to a bicycle is one way of getting Delhi children to and from school, at little cost to parents. Photograph: Ian Wright.

Pentagon wants to spend more than £100m on defences in Honduras

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The Pentagon is proposing further US military entrenchment in Central America with the expenditure of \$149m (£106m) on new and improved military installations over the next four years. It wants to upgrade two air bases in Honduras, at Palmerola and La Ciega, to accommodate US fighter jets.

The plans are outlined in a Pentagon report submitted to Congress last week, indicating a determination by the Reagan Administration to continue its military build-up in the region.

Honduras, the centre of the new American expansion in Central America, will be the site of repeated military exercises lasting until 1988, the report says. The long-range plans for American involvement there

have surprised some congressmen.

The administration has denied repeatedly that it is quietly building up a permanent military base in Honduras, the poorest of the five main Central American nations.

Thereport, issued in the name of Mr William Taft, deputy defence secretary, says that some proposed military construction in Honduras is intended to support US forces that could be sent there under the Rio Treaty, an Intra-American collective defence pact.

The report proposes the expenditure of \$13m to lengthen the runway and to make other improvements at Palmerola air base in central Honduras, the heart of America's

military presence in the country.

At La Ciega, an airfield on the Atlantic coast, the report proposes expenditure of \$8m on improvements so the base could support "tactical aircraft operations". It could also handle planes from aircraft carriers, the report says.

Another proposal is for the construction of a \$1.5m storage site for air munitions, which would be useful "in the event the US must deploy tactical aircraft in Honduras in support of a decision to provide military assistance as outlined in the Rio Treaty".

At the Honduran airfield of San Lorenzo, near the Gulf of Fonseca, the Pentagon proposes the expenditure of \$2.9m to build installations for the storage of military equipment.

It also proposes that \$43m be spent on the improvement of Guantanamo Bay, the US base on the south-eastern coast of Cuba.

On the Honduras proposals the report states: These facilities are required to provide storage for the prepositioning of bridging and barrier materials, including munitions. These facilities would significantly reduce the time required for the US to provide military assistance as necessary.

The build-up in Honduras is particularly significant as it is possible that the US Southern Command, its Latin American military headquarters, might have to leave Panama at the end of the century with the termination of the Panama Canal treaty. Honduras is clearly emerging as the alternative base.

Mr Taft has been asked to testify before the house military construction sub-committee on the proposals.

Costa Ricans protest against US pressure

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

Tens of thousands of Costa Ricans paraded through the centre of San José on Tuesday in a march for peace and neutrality.

Schools and public offices were closed to allow people to participate in what was said to be the largest demonstration in memory in this tiny politically stable country.

Carrying placards and colorful banners, the marchers chanted: "Peace yes, war no", "If the rich want war, let them go and fight", and "No to armaments for Costa Rica".

The estimated 20,000 to 30,000 demonstrators followed a route specifically chosen, the organizers, said to by-pass the United States embassy where it was feared violence could erupt.

In the only incident of the day, one demonstrator destroyed the embassy and hurled several bags of red paint at its white wall. Security at the embassy was reinforced but it remained open.

Anti-American, as well as anti- and pre-Nicaraguan slogans were banned by the organizers. Even so there were numerous chants calling for the rebel leader, Señor Eden Pastora, to stop using Costa Rica as a base for his military activities against Nicaragua.

Costa Rica is the only country in the region without an army and, under President Luis Alberto Monge, has declared itself militarily neutral in external conflicts.

Duarte win upheld in El Salvador

San Salvador (Reuter) - Election officials in El Salvador have rejected a request by the losing party in this month's presidential polls for a recount of the vote, upholding the victory of the moderate Christian Democrat, Señor José Napoleón Duarte.

Señor Armando Rodríguez Eguizabal, president of the Central Elections Council, said that a petition by the far-right Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena) party to nullify the result of the May 6 vote had been rejected.

On Monday night, Arena called for a recount of the vote because of what it said were irregularities in the council's counting procedures.

Arena representatives alleged that many votes counted in favour of the Christian Democrats were invalid.

"Their petition was without basis and the final results stand," we will give Duarte official notification that he is the President-elect of the country," Señor Rodríguez Eguizabal said. Señor Duarte is preparing to visit Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and the US as President-elect before the weekend.

● **Youths kidnapped:** Left-wing guerrillas kidnapped dozens of young people from the village of El Limón near here to press them into service with rebel forces, military sources said (AP reports). Between 50 and 80 young men and women were carried off in part of a rebel recruitment drive.

Guerrillas arrived at the village on Monday evening and ordered the young people by name to come out of their houses, then took away those between 15 and 30.



Señor Duarte, invited to Washington.

Panama poll won by 1,713 votes

Panama City (Reuter) - Señor Nicolás Ardito Barletta, the candidate of the Official Party won the country's first presidential elections in 16 years of military-backed rule, according to the country's electoral tribunal.

Government-appointed judges on the tribunal said that Señor Barletta, aged 45, had beaten the opposition leader, Señor Arnaldo Arias, aged 82, by 1,713 votes.

Opposition leaders have accused the Government of fraud but the tribunal threw out all legal challenges to the results.

Senior western diplomats said that many of the opposition's complaints merited investigation. The Opposition election controller, Señor Alvin Zeeden, called the announcement a "fraudulent dawn raid".

The election tribunal said that its final recount of results from the country's 40 electoral districts gave Señor Ardito Barletta 300,750 votes to 299,037 for Señor Arias.

US strongly defends tactics on Namibia

By Kenneth Mackenzie

A vigorous defence of the American policy of linking a settlement in Namibia with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola was made yesterday by Dr Chester Crocker, US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

Speaking in Washington on a satellite-linked press conference, he was answering questions by journalists in Lagos, Lusaka, Nairobi and London. He also refused to call the recent Lusaka conference on Namibia a failure, insisting it was a step forward.

Facing hostile questions on linkage, Dr Crocker said: "We want to solve the problem of Namibia, not just feel good about it and pass glorious resolutions. If we can get a commitment on the withdrawal of Cuban troops we can get a solution."

He said Security Council resolution 435, which provides for a UN-supervised election leading to independence, remained a fundamental element for a settlement. The US forswore no change in that, but there had to be a political basis for implementation. "There has got to be something for everyone."

Defending his optimism, he said the Lusaka meeting was not meant to reach decisions. It was a meeting of political

parties and it was valuable that Swapo and the internal Namibian parties had got together. Decisions would have to be taken by governments.

"Our understanding is that the South Africans have accepted resolution 435 and will implement it, provided the Cubans are withdrawn," Dr Crocker said.

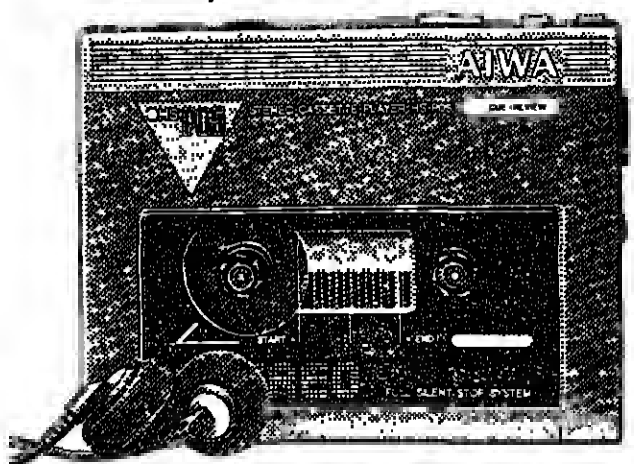
"It is known that in South Africa there is a question mark regarding UN impartiality. Farther north there is a question mark regarding South African impartiality."

"This is politics. But if we can get a satisfactory understanding on the Cuban issue we will get resolution 435."

Asked about his policy of "generally constructive engagement" with South Africa, Dr Crocker said this did not mean cosying up to apartheid. It was always made clear that there had to be a change away from racism if negotiations were to continue.

The most important thing was to remove illusions - that change could come from armed struggle across the border or that South Africa faces a total onslaught. Once these were gone, bridges and channels could be opened and "many signals can be sent in both directions".

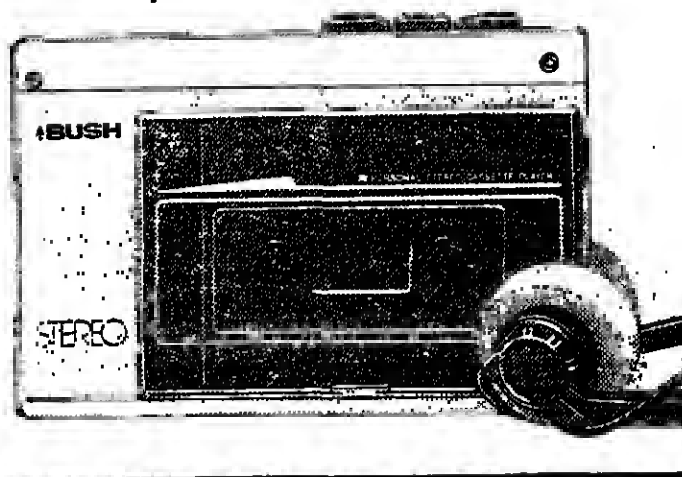
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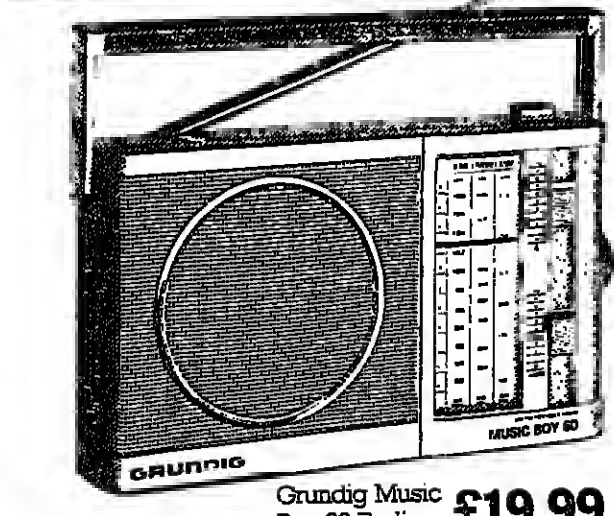
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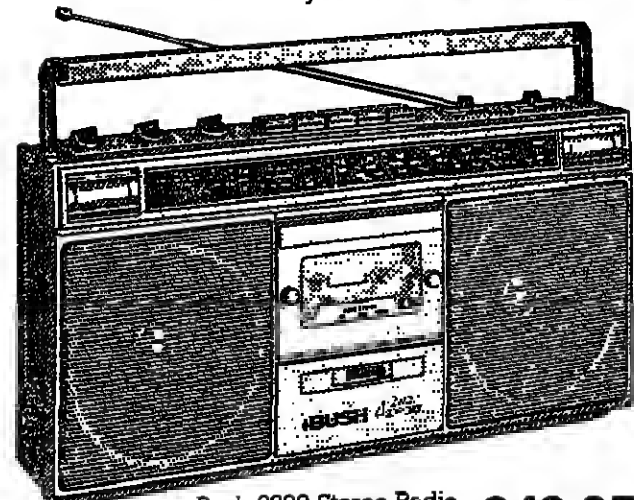
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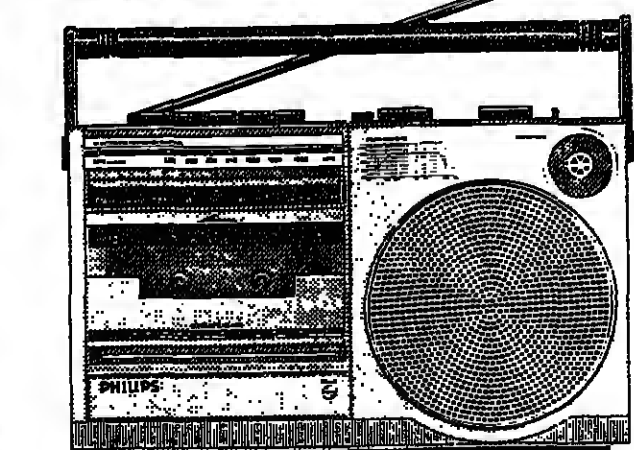
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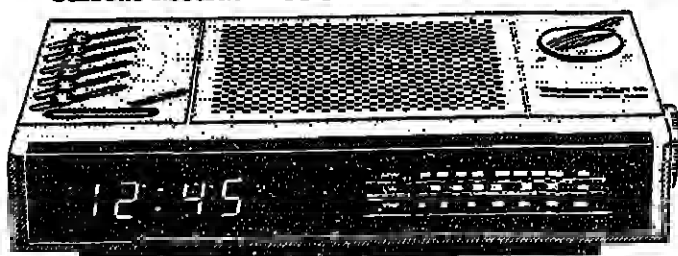
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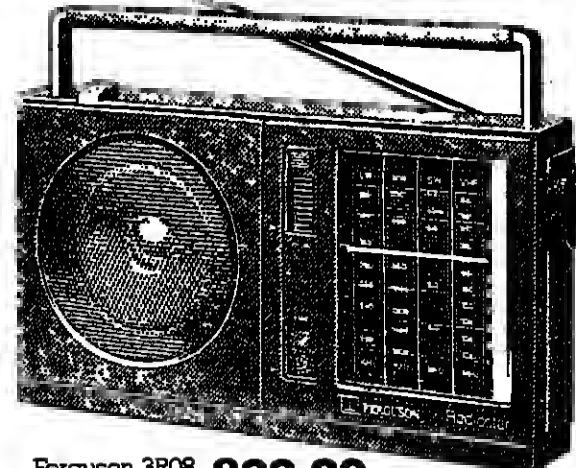
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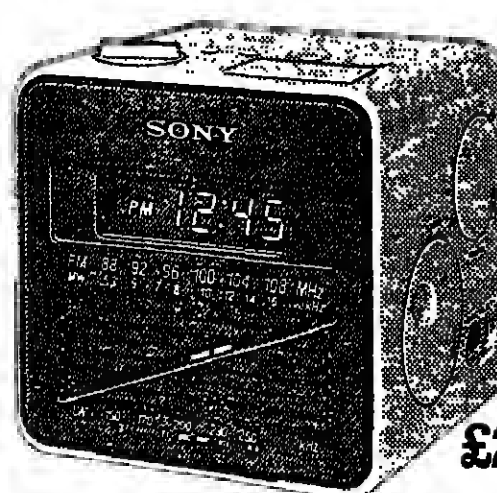
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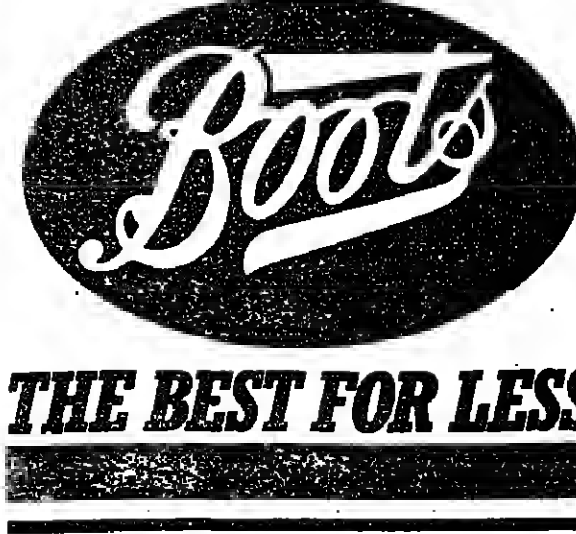
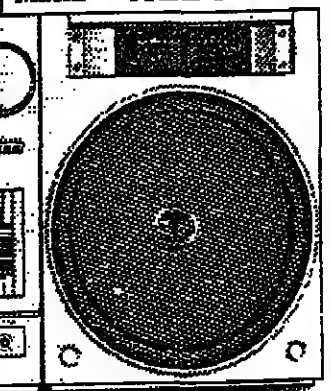
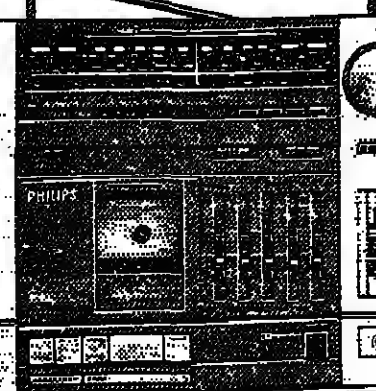
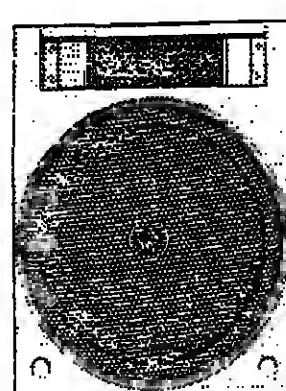


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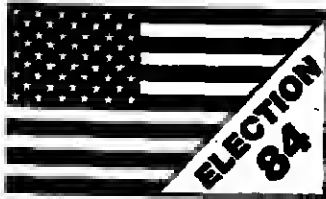
Hart campaign gains new momentum with wins in Oregon and Nebraska

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

"The voters have said they are not prepared to see this race over," a triumphant Senator Gary Hart told 400 cheering supporters after easily winning primaries in Oregon and Nebraska on Tuesday night. "On to California, on to New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and on to the White House."

Mr Hart had to win in Oregon and Nebraska if he was to sustain the renewed momentum which his flagging campaign had gained with last week's victories in Ohio and Indiana. And win he did - very easily.

In Oregon Mr Hart won 57



almost 221 over his Coloradoan rival. Mr Hart is projected to win 28 delegates in Oregon and 15 in Nebraska.

However, the wins will be of great psychological importance for the Hart campaign. Mr Hart hopes that the momentum will enable him to score further big victories on "Final Tuesday" (June 5) when California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and West Virginia hold their primaries.

According to United Press International's count there are now 1,552 delegates pledged to support Mr Mondale at the party's nominating convention in San Francisco in July, 931 for Mr Hart and 291 for Mr Jackson. A further 361 are uncommitted and 58 are for other candidates.

Mr Mondale had predicted that he would have the 1,967 delegate votes required for the nomination by the time the "Final Tuesday" primaries were over. However, yesterday he backed down from that prediction, saying "I don't want to be pinned down to a particular date."

Mr Hart's strategy now is to perform sufficiently well in the remaining contests to deny Mr Mondale enough delegates to lock up the nomination and then to persuade a brokered convention that he, rather than Mr Mondale, has the best chance of defeating President Reagan in November.



Senator Hart taking time off from the campaign to go riding in Denver, Colorado.

Wooing the female vote

The most talked of woman in America

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The most talked about woman in American politics these days is Mrs Geraldine Ferraro, a 48-year-old Democratic congresswoman from the Queens district of New York.

In the past few weeks most leading newspapers have carried lengthy profiles about her, she is appearing constantly on television, and has even made the social pages by being seen mixing with the well-heeled celebrities who attended last weekend's Kentucky Derby - an unusual setting for a woman whose father ran a five-and-dime store and whose constituency gave birth to "Archie Bunker", the American television equivalent of Alf Garnett.

The reason for Mrs Ferraro's current fame is not because of anything special she has done or said, or even because she has been selected as the first woman

convinced that the advantages of doing so would outweigh the disadvantages.

The only candidate who has said he would definitely put a woman on the ticket is the Rev Jesse Jackson, but he stands on a chance of winning the nomination.

Experts from both political parties agree that the day is rapidly approaching when a woman will run for the vice-presidency, but no one knows whether it will occur in 1984. Mr Charles Manatt, the Democratic Party chairman, says that "it's gone beyond the hypothetical discussion stage". But many Republicans feel the Democrats are merely talking about the merits of running a woman for the vice-presidency in an attempt to woo the important women's vote to their side.

There are as many minuses as there are pluses about putting a woman's name on the Democratic ticket. Those in favour argue that a woman would bring the party a net gain in votes, particularly among younger women voters. Women now constitute 53 per cent of the electorate and polls show that President Reagan's standing is much lower among women than it is among men.

Running a woman for the vice-presidency would, it is contended, exploit the "gender gap" to the Democrats' advantage.

However, the anti's (who include many women) feel that running a woman for Vice-President would be just a token and would take the pressure off the Democrats to name more women to top jobs. They also fear it could tilt the male vote further in Mr Reagan's favour.

Numerous polls have been taken about the merits of having a woman's name on the Democratic ticket, often with differing or ambiguous results. Although they show that most Americans support the principle of a woman for Vice-President, they become much less enthusiastic when specific names are mentioned.

A recent New York Times CBS News poll showed that a woman for Vice-President would attract a significant number of women under the age of 45, but would drive off large numbers of men over 45, men from the West and from the suburbs.

Mrs Ferraro is the preference of the party establishment and last week received the public backing of Mr Thomas O'Neill. A slim and attractive blonde whose good looks belie an inner toughness, she can be brassy and irreverent and seems equally at home delivering a speech on women's rights or swapping stories with male colleagues.

Other possible vice-presidential candidates include Mrs Dianne Feinstein, Mayor of San Francisco, Rep. Patricia Schroeder of Colorado, Rep. Barbara Mikulski of Maryland, Rep. Lindy Boggs of Louisiana and Mrs Eleanor Smeal, former president of the National Organization of Women.

China and Vietnam both claim victory

Hanoi (AFP) - Vietnamese troops killed at least 100 Chinese soldiers after a fresh Chinese incursion into the Vietnamese border province of Ha Tuyen, Vietnamese communists stated yesterday.

The report conflicted with an account from Peking, where the Chinese news agency said that a number of Vietnamese "invaders" had been killed in Yunnan province.

The Vietnamese statement said that Chinese armed forces had fired more than 6,000 shells of varying sizes in the province against hills identified as 1,558, 1,387, 1,427 and 1,030. It said that "the Chinese sent an infantry regiment from the military zone of Kunming" in the Chinese province of Yunnan against hill 1,030. But Hanoi's troops "punished the Chinese aggressors, annihilating at least 100 enemies".

China also fired several thousand shells into two other Vietnamese border provinces, Cao Bang and Langson, the communiqué said.

In Peking, the New China news agency reported that Chinese frontier guards had killed a number of Vietnamese troops in a counter-attack on Tuesday against the "invaders" in Yunnan.

The Vietnamese suffered heavy losses and some of their positions were destroyed in the action, the agency said yesterday. Countless Vietnamese shells have fallen on frontier villages in the province in the past three weeks.

The Vietnamese Defence Minister, General Van Tien Dung, has left Hanoi for Moscow, Western sources here said. The length of the visit, which was neither denied nor confirmed by Vietnamese sources, was unknown.

One theory is that the purpose of the visit is to ask for additional arms in light of the prolonged border tension. Others said that Thailand's planned purchase of F16 fighter jets the United States may have caused Vietnam to seek similar planes from the Soviet Union.

Solidarity chief stabs himself in jail protest

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

A jailed leader of the banned Solidarity union has stabbed himself in the stomach with a hunter knife, apparently to avoid having to testify in the trial of a colleague.

The action by Piotr Bednarz, who will spend up to 10 days in hospital, is the latest in a series of hunger strikes, cell protests and political clashes between Solidarity prisoners and the authorities of Berczewo prison.

The prison's political wing, which contains only nine prisoners, has become the most unruly in Poland. Three members of the Wrocław underground, Bednarz, Wladyslaw Frasnyski and Jozef Pinior, and two from Lodz have been conducting their opposition struggle demanding clearly defined political status.

The other four prisoners, who include members of the nationalist KPN movement, support the campaign.

The prisoners claim that they have been silenced by wardens using straitjackets, handcuffs and mouthgags. The authorities say they are entitled to do this and deny the use of adhesive tape to silence prisoners.

Bednarz would have been required to testify in the trial of Jozef Pinior, who is charged with illegal union activities. His testimony is described as essential to the case, and the hearings have been stopped temporarily.

King Juan Carlos ends boldest trip

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

King Juan Carlos arrived back here yesterday from Leningrad, having given a new prestige to Spain during a six-day state visit with Queen Sofia to the Soviet Union.

On the boldest and most difficult of his official journeys abroad, the King added a distinctive Spanish emphasis when he rose to the challenge of talking world problems.

Before the hard line Soviet leadership, he emphasized the new democratic Spain's belief in the universal validity of human rights. But in his banquet speech before President Chernenko, the King also voiced Madrid's belief that there must be dialogue between the two super powers to stop the growing tension.

Senor Gerardo Moran, the Foreign Minister, who had almost three hours of talks with his counterpart, Mr Andrei Gromyko, denied yesterday on his return with the royal couple

that the Russians had raised Spain's Nato membership. In the light of Soviet protests before Spain joined, this had been feared, it is now taken in Madrid that the Russians have resigned themselves to the situation.

The King's visit has to be seen in conjunction with the visits Senor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, made immediately beforehand to Copenhagen and Helsinki.

On these, Senor Gonzalez announced that his government would take a public stand on Nato membership before a referendum is held on the issue. He said Spain could not turn its defence responsibilities or take a neutralist attitude. These two important statements eased the King's journey.

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany begins a two-day visit here today when he is expected once again to press Senor Gonzalez to remain in Nato.

Swedes jeer Mitterrand

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

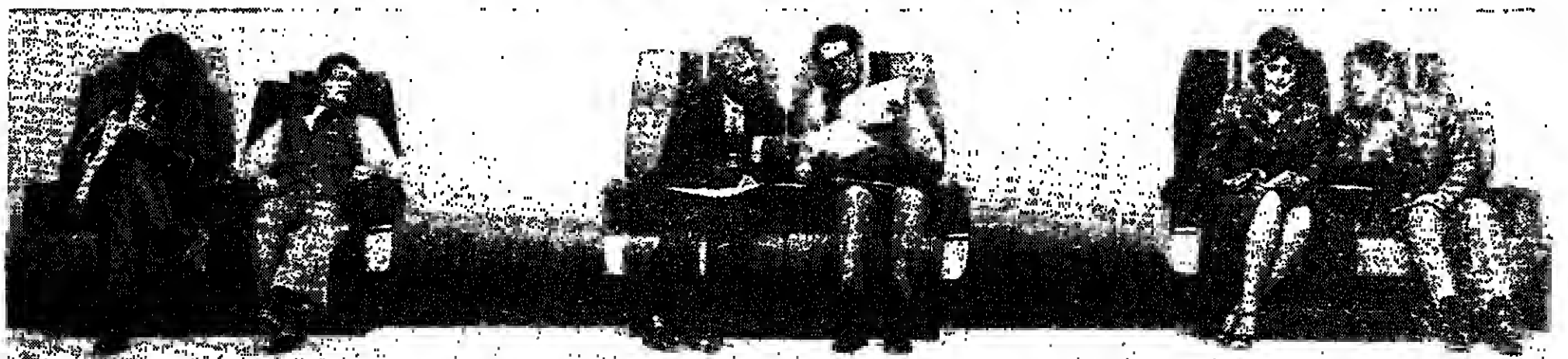
President Mitterrand was met by jeering demonstrators protesting against France's testing of nuclear weapons in the South Pacific when he arrived in Sweden yesterday for a two-day state visit.

The protesters chanted slogans and waved placards as the president and his wife, Danielle, were welcomed at Arlanda airport by Sweden's Prince Bertil and driven to the royal palace in Stockholm.

The protest was led by Mr Bengt Danielsson, a Swedish author who has lived on various islands in the South Pacific since 1947 and whose daughter died of cancer 10 years ago, aged 30. Mr Danielsson claims the cancer was caused by radio activity from the French tests.

Mitterrand later held talks with Sweden's Socialist Prime Minister Mr Olof Palme. It is the first French state visit to Sweden for 70 years.

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Sanctions breakers face legal action by Cyprus

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Cyprus intends to take legal action against European Community countries, including Britain, which continue importing goods from the secessionist Turkish-Cypriot state, in defiance of a Community ban and the latest Security Council resolution.

This was disclosed by Mr Andreas Christofidīs, the Cypriot spokesman, at the close of two days of talks between President Kyprianou, who was returning home from New York, and Mr Andreas Papandreu the Greek Prime Minister.

Mr Christofidīs said this move would include, if necessary, recourse to the European Court, was one of a series of actions decided during the Athens talks, on ways of implementing last week's Security Council ruling which he described as the "strongest since the UN sanctions against Rhodesia and South Africa."

"We are taking the resolution literally and asking for its full implementation," he said. "We are asking the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to invite Turkey to surrender Varosha (the Greek section of Famagusta) to the UN for the resettlement of its Greek inhabitants."

The Security Council said in its Resolution 550 that "it considers attempts to settle any part of Varosha by people other than its inhabitants as inadmis-

sible and calls for the transfer of this area to the administration of the United Nations."

Mr Christofidīs said a third move would be to reactivate the "action group" set up by the last Commonwealth Conference to look into the Cyprus problem. The possibility of appealing to the International Court at The Hague denouncing the creation of a state in defiance of international treaties, was being studied.

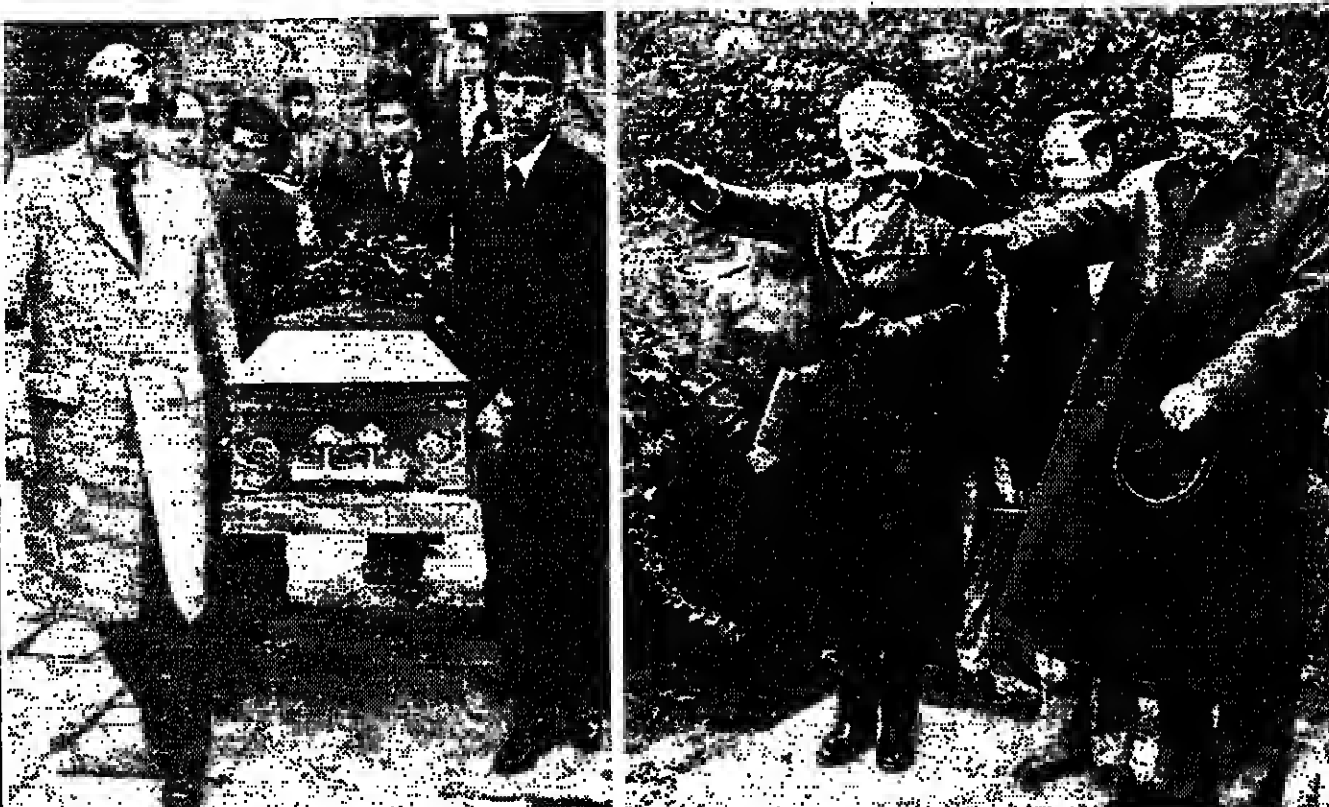
The Cypriot spokesman said there was no room for a resumption of the inter-communal dialogue at any level. The Turkish-Cypriot conditions for this were absurd.

The Athens talks between President Kyprianou and Mr Papandreu had also examined the defence of Cyprus as well as contingency plans in case the Turkish-Cypriots asked the UN to sign a separate agreement with it to allow the UN peace force to be deployed in the occupied north of the island.

Mr Christofidīs said it would take a new Security Council decision to alter the status or the deployment of the peace force.

Correction

The diplomatic victory at the United Nations referred to on May 14, was achieved by the Greek Cypriots, not, as stated, by Greece.



Nazi's funeral: Walter Raut's son and grandson, who both bear his name, lead pallbearers after a service for the fugitive war criminal, who died in Santiago, Chile on Monday. Nazi sympathizers (right) shouted "Heil Hitler" and gave the Nazi salute during the burial. Raut was accused of murdering 97,000 Jews in mobile gas chambers.

Turkish elite demand human rights

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

In a petition submitted to President Evren and to Mr Necmettin Karaduman, the Parliamentary Speaker, 1,260 leading Turkish academics, lawyers, writers, journalists, former politicians and artists called for the restoration of democratic institutions in Turkey.

A six-man delegation headed by Professor Husnu Goksel, a world-renowned cancer specialist, and including Professor Fehmi Yavuz, a leading academic and former Education Minister, and Mr Aziz Nesin, a writer and humorist of international reputation, was allowed to submit the five-page petition to the officials at the gate of the presidential palace

while they were received personally by the Speaker.

"To alienate democracy from its inherent values and institutions, to preserve it in form while emptying it of its contents, is as dangerous as destroying it," the intellectuals said in their petition.

They considered it humiliating that their country should be reduced to the position of a

state whose human rights guarantees were being debated in other countries, and called for measures for the complete eradication of torture, the existence of which had, they said, been proven by court decisions. "We fear that it may have become habitual for torture to be used as an extraordinary, prior and primitive form of punishment."

Philippine regime warned not to rig poll results

From David Watts, Manila

The ruling New Society Movement (KBL) in the Philippines was warned last night "to abandon further attempts to tamper with or change the election results."

The warning came from Mr Jose Concepcion, chairman of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) as suspicions grew among opposition politicians over the lack of official results from Monday's election.

Though the polls closed more than 48 hours ago, the government national commission on elections has not declared any official results, apart from conceding that one seat in Manila had gone to the Opposition.

Even President Marcos appealed to the commission to produce results quickly in order to ease tensions, as Namfrel has called its observers across the country to report on the state of election returns within 24 hours.

Namfrel has been compiling a list of results from all over the country, based on reports from 300,000 poll watchers.

According to these results, the principal Opposition and independent parties were winning in 80 seats with the ruling KBL ahead in 82 after a little more than 57 per cent of the votes had been counted. Hardly any new results came in yesterday, and from 15 seats in

northern provinces, Namfrel has received no returns at all. On election day, both Mr and Mrs Marcos confidently predicted that the KBL would have a clean sweep. It is estimated that £770m has been brought back into the country from abroad to finance the election.

In Manila itself, Namfrel says the opposition has either won or is winning in 15 seats against five for the ruling party, and with one seat still undecided. This is the business district Makati of Mr Aurora Pijuan-Manotoc, former wife of Mr Tommy Manotoc, who is now married to the President's daughter.

Counting has twice been stopped in this seat for unexplained reasons, and yesterday the polling centre was guarded by numerous civilians carrying night-sticks. There appears to be only a few hundred votes between the two contenders.

The KBL candidate is backed by one of the strongest party machines in the country, while Mrs Manotoc is by no stretch of the imagination a politician.

The narrowness of the contest clearly indicates the strength of the protest vote, and the frustration that many Filipinos feel after years of martial law and rigged elections. The loss of the Makati seat would be painful for the Marcos family for both family and national reasons.

The Bulgarian experiment

Reforms that do not ruffle the Russians

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Bulgaria, the Kremlin's staunchest ally in the Balkans, has been setting, by Eastern block standards, a fast pace in economic reforms this year.

Punishing inefficient companies with high interest rates and rewarding efficient ones with low rates is only one of several incentives recently introduced as part of what Mr Ivan Lukanov, Bulgaria's young Deputy Prime Minister, calls the "economic mechanism."

Other features include wage-funds, which enable workers to share profits in successful concerns, and an increasing emphasis on quality as well as quantity, best observed perhaps in the successful Balkan Car fordit company.

But such improvements are not without problems for a country with a highly centralized economy used to concentrating on quantity rather than quality. Mr Lukanov is typical of many Bulgarian ministers who, by East European standards, are remarkably young for their jobs and he concedes that many managers of a different generation simply cannot cope with the reforms that have been taking place over the past 18 months.

For the Russians, slightly uneasy at economic reforms in Hungary, the example of Bulgaria is a comforting reminder that the Hungarians are mavericks without progeny in the Eastern block. Whatever the pace of reform set by the Bulgarians, there is no question of any private sector being established.

Western sources are less optimistic than Bulgarian politicians anxious to claim that the pace of reforms will be continued. In particular, they question how Bulgaria can hope to finance ambitious plans to revolutionize its technology, with a declining hard-currency income.

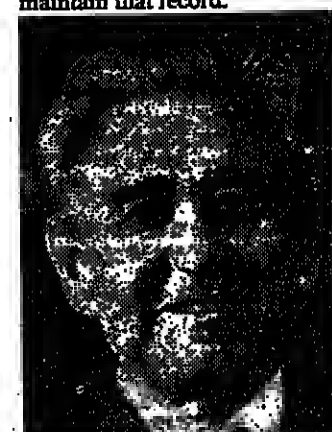
Although no balance sheets are published in Bulgaria - despite the Prime Minister's claims that there is no censorship - it is believed that Bulgaria's trade with the West will be down by 4 to 5 per cent by the end of the year.

In recent years, Bulgaria has been able to boost its hard-currency earnings by refining oil imported for rubles from the Soviet Union and reselling it. However as Russia's oil reserves have dropped, so too has the amount it exports to the Balkans. It is estimated that the supply of oil to Bulgaria has been cut by 10 per cent since the beginning of last year.

The country is relying on expanding tourism from the West - 55,000 British tourists visited Bulgaria last year - but visas and an official exchange rate five times less than the more realistic black market continue to deter many Western travellers.

Standards of cleanliness, cuisine and efficiency outshine most other Balkan countries. Bulgaria still suffers however from its reputation, reinforced in recent years by the "international terrorist link", of a country where, in the early days of the Orient Express, nasty things happened to Western travellers. At least one turn-of-the-century *Times* correspondent lies buried in the hills beyond Sofia.

But, despite a lack of raw materials and regardless of fluctuations in hard-currency earnings, Bulgaria remains one of the most reliable countries the West deals with. Its leaders will continue to develop the "economic mechanism" to maintain that record.



Mr Filipov: No private sector revival.

Fears for lives as doctors' strike spreads

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

Hetic efforts to end Finland's six-week long physicians' strike failed yesterday when the union rejected an offer by the state mediator, Mr Teuvo Kallio.

It is now feared that the strike will last several more weeks, which would make unnecessary deaths unavoidable. The strike, which began in the bigger cities has now spread to all parts of the country.

All doctors employed in the public sector are on strike and only urgent work is being carried out. The physicians' strike is the most serious in a series of white collar strikes this spring. Almost all blue collar unions accepted a two-year centralized wages agreement in April which was generally considered to be moderate.

A number of white collar unions belonging to the central organization, Akava, decided to press for more claiming that many manual unions have been able to secure their members' earnings and other benefits far above those of highly educated members of Akava. Four more small unions are also on strike.

DeLorean case informer 'paid \$60,000'

Los Angeles (Reuters) Mr James Hoffman, an informer and key prosecution witness in the drug trial of Mr John DeLorean was paid more than \$60,000 (£43,000) by the US government for the five months he worked on the case, a government agent said yesterday.

Mr DeLorean's lawyers allege that Mr Hoffman enticed their client with offers of investments for his car factory in Belfast and then raised the possibility of drug deals. A convicted drug smuggler and a former neighbour of the DeLoreans in the Panama Valley area of southern California, Mr Hoffman works for the American government as an informer.

An agent for the US drug enforcement administration, Mr William Walters, told the court yesterday that Mr Hoffman was paid \$28,338 in expenses for five months work on the case.

He also received \$32,000 in compensation for such things as medical bills. Mr DeLorean, facing nine drug charges, is accused of conspiring to import 220lb of cocaine, estimated by the prosecution to have a street value of \$24m.

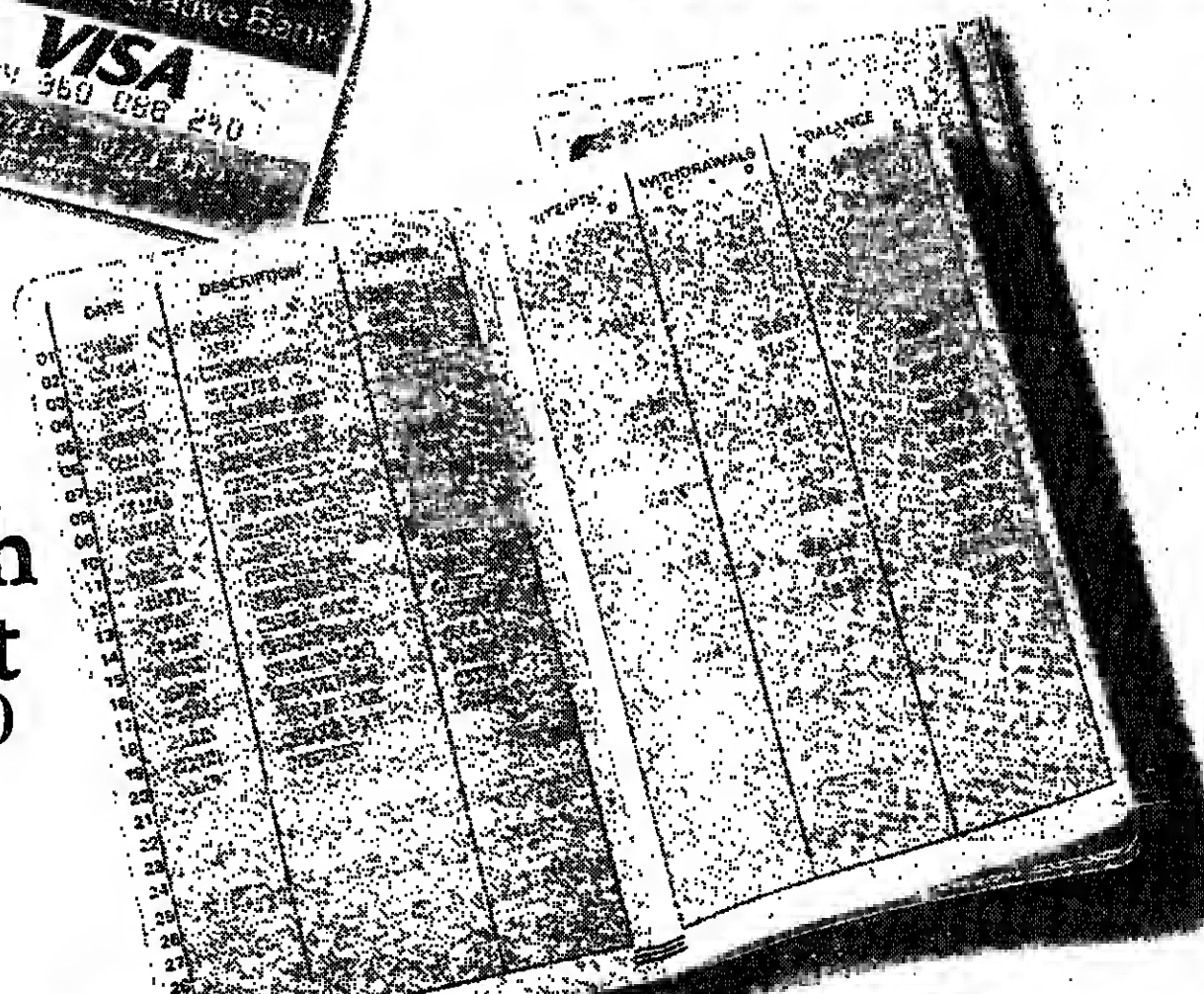
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THE ARTS

Today's publication of an Arts Council study on a home for dance in London serves also to highlight the perilous position of all the capital's theatres: Bryan Appleyard reports

When the ceiling falls in

The Cambridge: not architecturally significant, so should it be saved just because it is a theatre?

logical move is for the fully commercial theatres to be transferred to the Theatres Trust. This was set up in 1976 but has never been able to fulfil its function to be a theatre owner and protector with real power. It has acted solely as an advisory body.

Now, however, enlightened opinion within the GLC has realized that this may be a golden opportunity to mobilize the trust to take a handful of significant freeholds out of the always risky commercial market.

Both the implementation of such a GLC move and the Drummond recommendations would represent solutions in those limited cases. But the rest of the picture is infinitely more complex. The first problem is the ownership structure itself. The broad pattern of effective ownership is clear enough: Stoll Moss and Wyndhams (a subsidiary of Associated Newspapers) are the two primary groups and the rest are divided between a variety of smaller groups and individual owners. But the precise pattern of ultimate freehold ownership almost defies analysis. Head leases and sub-leases

produce an elaborate web which the Trust gamely tries to map.

What is clear, however, is that these freeholds change hands with disturbing regularity. At a GLC meeting on the future of West End theatre held in March it was said that eight theatres were on the market at "hope value" rather than real value. In other words the freeholders were asking prices that assumed that one day the sites would be available for redevelopment.

This brings us to the heart of the threat to the theatres. Freeholds are held by companies who know perfectly well that they would rise in value 10 or 20 times if they could be redeveloped. With small theatres changing hands as theatres at £450,000 and larger ones up to £1m, it is clear that the stakes, once the redevelopment multiplier effect is applied, become very high indeed. An incident like the ceiling collapse at the Shaftesbury is crucial precisely because it highlights the gulf between the cost of a full repair and the actual commercial value of the

John Drummond: has privately told the Arts Council that Drury Lane is the only serious option

theatre. And, once that appears on the freeholder's accounts, then all the paraphernalia of the planning process and the conservation lobby can prove helpless.

For the sad fact is that revenue even from a profitable theatre is highly unlikely to come anywhere near covering the kind of large-scale repair and maintenance work which most of the buildings are bound to need over the next few years. The equation simply does not work.

For an industry which has proved historically incapable of thinking in the long term, or even of regarding itself as a coherent industry, this is an appalling problem. It has rightly realized that the worst enemies of all the theatres are dark houses and strenuous efforts are being made to promote the West End as a whole. But it is clear that the traditional short-term solution - a bit show - is no longer enough. Over the years a higher and higher proportion of the West End's seats have been sold to tourists and their patronage can vanish with the vagaries of the foreign exchange market. The current boom has as much to do



Among the theatres' defenders there are two approaches. One is by the blood-and-thunder school who will fight for every theatre, no matter what, on the basis that it is the intensity and multiplicity of theatrical life in London which makes the West End work at all. The key figure on this side is John Earl of the GLC's Historic Buildings Department. Secondly there are the compromisers like Iain Mackintosh of Theatre Projects who want to see appropriate office developments, if necessary on top of theatres as at the Playhouse, Charing Cross, to endow the theatres permanently. In addition they accept that some theatres may not be saveable or should be replaced.

In the immediate future the three most obviously threatened theatres are the Fortune, the Astoria and the Cambridge. Since none is architecturally significant the issue would be remarkably straightforward - should they be saved just because they are theatres?

But such small-scale campaigns may, in the event, prove harder to mount than, for example, the great communal uprising which prevented the redevelopment of Covent Garden. That battle, which saved no fewer than 16 theatres, was fought not only on environmental grounds but also in resistance to the belief that live theatre was an art condemned to an inevitable contraction. But the war has still to be won and the theatre conservationists know full well that it could be lost as a result of a long series of skirmishes. One element of the final outcome is, however, quite clear to everybody: there will never again be any such thing as a completely unsubsidized, fully commercial theatre.

Theatre

Pygmalion

Shaftesbury

Great musical as it may be, *My Fair Lady* has much to answer for in having kept Shaw's best comedy out of the theatre for many a long year, and I guess there will be many customers avid for a return to Wimpole Street and a full account of the Eliza-Higgins relationship uninterrupted by song cues or detours to Ascot.

However, I can offer this revival no more than a qualified welcome. Bearing the marks of a prestige event in the Theatre of Comedy repertoire, it runs to names like Joyce Carey and Barbara Murray in the supporting parts and to a series of grand, spacious settings by Douglas Heap, who also includes any amount of valuable period properties for Higgins to demolish. But, like the crowd of pearly kings shoe-horned into the overflowing foyer, Ray Cooney's production betrays a heavy touch. It opens with much shouting from the Eynesford Hills, and a crowd of bystanders semaphoring their Cockney gestures like an opera chorus and throughout the evening the performance tends to coagulate around punchlines, physical business and anti-climaxes.

The reason for much of this can be summed up in two words: Peter O'Toole. So far as physical appearance and temperamental range go, it is hard to think of anyone better equipped to play Higgins. He has the lean, leathery elegance; the arrogance, the comic ability to switch like lightning between triumph and humiliation; and between adult egotism and little-boy charm.

As Shaw wrote him, though, Higgins also has an interest in phonetics, and there is precious little sign of the obsessed research scientist in O'Toole's linguistic Svengali. At the idea of transforming Eliza into a



Sustained combative comedy: Jackie Smith-Wood, Peter O'Toole

duchess, he goes through a melodramatic trance, like Frankenstein in the laboratory; and once this idea is implanted his appearance increasingly raises the spectre of Henry Irving and the race of anti-intellectual actor-managers who flourished before Shaw arrived on the scene.

Higgins's justification, and the factor that always entitles him to some shred of sympathy, is that he is too wrapped up in his work to spare time for people. Lacking this justification, O'Toole's sadistic teas-

ing of Eliza, his habit of waving his shoe under the nose of his mother's guests, and his casual treatment of Pickering as an insignificant sidekick (a role to which Jack Watling submits all too readily) come over as simply boorish. As he crashes round his studio, preparing for the next volcanic outburst, you even start fearing for his scientific equipment.

Like Higgins, though, O'Toole responds to partners who stand up to him, and he is at his best with John Thaw's chunky and indomitable

Dolittle, an aggressive master of the Shavian trade, at whose diatribes on middle-class morality even O'Toole edits himself elegantly into the background. So far as Jackie Smith-Wood's Eliza is concerned, it is a longer battle.

In their early scenes, with O'Toole constantly on the eye-catching move, and taking physical bold of her in a manner to arouse the worst fears of Mrs Pearce (Miss Murray), she is in danger of becoming yet another fed character. In the party scene, she remains inconspic-

ive, beginning with splendidly measured gentilities and then, fatally, accelerating once she gets down to the gin and hat-pots. But, after the night of the great party, she finally digs her heels in, and in their last scenes together they are playing as equals.

For sustained combative comedy, there is nothing more thrilling and illuminating anywhere in Shaw, and this performance does it justice.

Irving Wardle

Concert

Philharmonia/Sinopoli

Festival Hall

Whatever else may happen, the Philharmonia are going to be living dangerously with their new principal conductor Giuseppe Sinopoli. They began on Tuesday by dying dangerously with him. A bold choice for a man taking over an orchestra with memories of performing this piece under other Italian star conductors, Muti and Giulini, and a risky choice for one who does not need the last trump to make him urgent and dynamic. Indeed the risk was too much, as was this performance, and a work that re-

sponded all too well to Mr Sinopoli's style ended in caricature.

Take the start of the "Confutatio maledictis", where Verdi throws down two orchestral curses to punctuate the bass solo. Mr Sinopoli had those too leadenly coloured, and emphatic, so groaning with the pounds of low clarinets, bassoons and horn, that the gesture appeared simply absurd. Or take the recurrent "Dies irae" music. It is all very well to have this creating a thunderstorm or two in the air above the concert hall, it is even all right if one is reminded of Verdi in *Aida* - triumph mood. But it is a different matter if the orchestra is so shriekingly loud that the voices can make only a minuscule contribution, and it is a different matter, too, if the march tempo is so thumping sustained that one fully expects trumpeters, priests and, of course, elephants to proceed across the platform.

Mr Sinopoli's lack of rhythmic subtlety, which made much of the work a sequence of marches and gavottes would seem to spring from fear of textural disintegration. Here it

was a fear well justified. Since two of the soloists, Florence Quivar and Veriano Luchetti, were last-minute substitutes there was some reason for the solo quartet being so alarmingly unsteady in ensemble and heterogeneous in sound: as in a duet, there was little contact between the musty oil of Miss Quivar and the salted vinegar of Mr. Luchetti. But there was no similar excuse for the three flutes in the "Agnus Dei" to sound as if they had never met before - no excuse, that is, other than Mr Sinopoli's fierce refusal of smoothness and blend.

In Mahler, even in Schumann and just possibly even in Schubert, Mr Sinopoli has proved that going against the music's grain can produce exciting results. But in Verdi the grain is less strongly defined, and if there is no feeling for harmony not only as choral weight but also as propulsive force, then the music will stagnate. Hence the tight discipline and the huge emphasis as devices which are aimed at countering that tendency, but which in fact only draw attention to why they are necessary. At times when this did not sound like John Phillip Sousa's interpretation of the Verdi Requiem it sounded like Stravinsky's, except that Stravinsky created a work of his own (the *Requiem Canticles*) out of his misunderstanding, whereas Mr Sinopoli created only confusion and noise.

It was not a happy environment for the soloists: Margaret Price was most unusually strained. Robert Lloyd uncertain of what was required of him. One must hope there has been some settling down by the time of the repeat performance tomorrow.

Paul Griffiths

Opera

No doubts who was really in charge

L'elisir d'amore

Covent Garden

There is nothing quite like a stupendous entrance for making a truly memorable exit, and Sir Geraint Evans, with his impeccable sense of theatrical timing, has surely chosen well. For he bids farewell to Covent Garden not with the *Mastersingers* where he began in 1948, not with the magic of Paganini's *Flute*, not even with Falstaff's philosophy of the world. Instead he appears and disappears with the swish of the stagecoach curtains, the swirl of Dulcamara's rainbow cloak, and with the love-philtre he has kept brewing for nearly 10 years.

John Copley's toy-theatre production of *L'elisir*, originally mounted for Sir Geraint and now rehearsed by Christopher Kenshaw, welcomes him back with open arms, and the challenge of two new lovers to get to work on. It says a good deal about the particular nature of Sir Geraint's artistry that, from the moment of his long-expected entrance, word and music suddenly begin to dance together, and orchestra and voices, sluggish in their start, gain impetus and the strength of ensemble so vital in the motley of this staging.

Sir Geraint's mountebank is as wise in his folly, as glad in his showmanship, as ever. But, if anything, there is now more economy of gesture, both vocal and physical, and, significantly, a shrewd and assiduous guardianship, as it were, of his

younger charges. Indeed, it is he who, at times, seems both to direct and to conduct - and not only in Adina's wedding breakfast duet.

In his Adina he has a fiercely and fearlessly confident woman: Sona Ghazarian, singing the role for the first time at Covent Garden, draws from her voice as many colours as glow from Berni Montresor's designs, and turns them not only to the caprice of *bel canto* but, generously, to the articulation of distinctive individual character. The timing and timing of her final declaration of love and her wooing back of Nemorino are deliciously achieved.

Her Nemorino is Luis Lima, making his house debut and following equally fearlessly in the footsteps of Gedda, Bergonzi and Carreras. He, too, has that refreshing quality of a sound technique articulating rather than masking individuality of vocal character. His "Una furiva lagrima" may not have been *canto* at its most *bellissimo*, but the resilience and expressive breadth of his gleefully boyish and spontaneous portrayal was worth much more.

Hilary Finch

Television

Toms and queens go out to play

Attitudes to feral cats vary. Some regard them as a suitable case for compulsory welfare; others as a pest. BBC1's QED acknowledged this divergence of opinion before taking us on *A Walk on the Wild Side* with the biologist Roger Tabor last night.

Mr Tabor's interest is professional. He sits happily in Fitzroy Square yawning, blinking and employing other well-considered subterfuges to ingratiate himself with his feral friends, who, thanks to T. S. Eliot, earned a certain status as Jellies. He goes to less fashionable places, too, and probably goes home pretty tired for some real yawns and a good night's sleep.

Sleep may be crucial in our attitudes to these independent-minded creatures. If you live near a colony of them, and a colony with rapacious toms and strident queens averages about

17.5, give or take half a cat, you may not get as much as you need. Fatigue and having to be wary where you set your foot during the day can soon blunt the edge of biological curiosity.

Old ladies, on the whole, appear to be long-suffering and kind to the feral ones, taking them supplies and presumably making them less independent and also less likely to depart.

Some councils worry about them. Foremost among these is that one where social concern is well known to be finely honed: Islington. It has a society, SNIP (Society for the Neutering of Islington Pussies), and a council cat-catcher. Both pursue a kind of cat-capping, doctoring the animals and returning them to site. The cat-trapper's name is Joy. She said her work was rather exciting.

Immense activity in the feral field in Islington last year

resulted in 200 cats being neutered. They return apparently less wild though possibly inwardly seething, their reproductive life over but their vocal organs, maybe more mournfully pitched, intact. Ultimately cat-capping would see an end to their communal life, though Mr Tabor seemed to think concern about community growth misplaced.

Some do not have over niceties. One factory put out a contract on the ferals after a complaint from a union. In came Melvin Driver, professional cat-catcher and put-downer, with technological traps and lots of chloroform. He seemed a kindly man. One wonders how many ratepayers from Islington and much more ruthless boroughs will be trying to get his number this morning.

Dennis Hackett

Dance

London Contemporary

Sadler's Wells

Centrepiece of London Contemporary Dance Theatre's first programme for their season which opened at Sadler's Wells on Tuesday is the London premiere of Siobhan Davies's latest ballet, *New Gullies*. The theme seems to be exploration, breaking frontiers, the clarity a new perspective gives. The attractive score is a piano piece by John Adams. The curtain rises on a handsome setting by David Buckland and Peter Mumford, with three dimly-lit pictures on the backcloth and a single dancer, Jonathan Lunn, standing with his back to the audience between what appear to be two walls of light running from front to back.

His movements are at first constrained by these intangible barriers. Figures appear briefly on the periphery of his space; their incursions gradually become more frequent and more positive while the walls themselves expand outwards, their edges marked by slender poles. The pictures come into focus: the edge of a planet, birds in flight, a dancer. Lunn joins with the other dancers and becomes integrated into their dance.

The movement itself represents something of a breakthrough for Davies - more rounded, and far more varied than I have seen from her in the past. Much of it moves in circles, like planets circling the sun, and there is a great deal of inventive doublework for the four couples who make up the cast.

On the whole the men made more impression than the women. Patrick Harding-Turner and Lunn being notable. But I could have wished throughout for a greater sense that these were people dancing together, rather than just well-trained bodies going through well-rehearsed movements.

In sharp contrast to this impersonality, two of the company's newest recruits, Tamsin Hickling and Kenneth Tharp, lit up the opening work, Christopher Bannerman's *Conso Trobar*, with their bright personalities, strong dancing and happy commitment.

Judith Cruickshank

● *Kipling*, written by Brian Clark and directed by Patrick Garland with the assistance of Matthew Francis, opens at the Mermade Theatre on May 31, with previews from May 29. The show, which is based on Kipling's own prose and poetry, and was previewed last year at the Chichester Festival Theatre, stars Alec McCowen.

Kibbutz Dance

The Place

The programme for the Kibbutz Dance Company's third short visit to London, which opened on Tuesday and closes tonight, suggests a definite advance on the standard of the repertoire. The chief attraction is the first showing in this country of Jiti Kylan's *Stoolgame*, a work of strange intensity.

It begins like a game with the dancers, once they have disentangled themselves from a supine group on a table, taking their stools and setting them, with premonitory aggressive bangs, into a rough ring. But the odd man out (Zichri Dagan) soon finds himself challenged and teased by a sadistic persecutor (Shlomo Zaga). He is left for dead, mourned by a lone woman (Effrat Livni) while the others continue their games. There are what may be resurrection, further struggles and finally a transfiguration.

The movement is as unusual as the drama: sudden thrusts into the air that may precipitate a woman from the arms of one partner to another; balances sustained by taking each other's weight across the thighs; bodies pulled along by heels thrust into armpits. The stools become almost participants in the action, and music by Armin Nordheim enters surreptitiously

at a midway point to reinforce the mood.

The other three works were all made for the company. *Death Came to Rocking Horse Michael* is an ambitious piece by one of the dancers, Rami Be'er, attempting to put into movement the ideas and images of a poem in Hebrew by the Sabra writer Natan Sach. The theme of parting from different stages of life is probably clearer in the text than on stage, but the wild, bucking solos given to Boaz Cohen as the young Michael, and the bravado with which he performs them, make a striking impression, and Yossi Mar-Haim's music has haunting moments.

In *Shapes*, Ya'acov Sharir tries to achieve a sculptural quality through slow motion, but the more formal it becomes, the less successful; the looser moments are best, as watchable as seaweed moved by the tide - no less but no more.

Heda Oren's *Once Upon a Time*, however, is an entertaining piece, set to a mixture of Vivaldi (instrumental and vocal) and percussion both military and jazzy. Crazy things happen, like the men summing the women's legs as if playing instruments, and there is much lively movement, but some sadness too in a solo for Mike Levine after losing his girl to a newcomer.

John Percival

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CANCELLATION of A Midsummer Night's Dream Thursday 17 May

The Management of the Royal Opera House regrets to have to announce the cancellation of the final performance by The Royal Opera of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* scheduled for Thursday 17th May. This is to provide much needed technical time on stage for the forthcoming new production of *Aida* which was lost over the weekend when stage technicians did not respond to an overtime call.

The Management apologises for the disappointment and inconvenience caused by this cancellation.

FULL REFUNDS will be made on return of tickets to the Box Office either in person or by post (please give full name and address) to: 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' Refunds, P.O. Box No 6, London WC2E 7QA.

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SPECTRUM

Return of the angry old Turk

The Times Profile:
Kingsley Amis

There are serious comparisons to be made between the work and career of Kingsley Amis and that of the greatest of all our British modern comic novelists, Evelyn Waugh - and they say something about the role of the comic Bad Man of English letters. Both began as radical, spectacular, even outrageous young Turks writing novels for their own generation - Waugh with *Decline and Fall*, still one of his best, and Amis with *Lucky Jim*, still one of his. They were both freshly-formed books dealing with a world where values, mores and social relations had been changed by a recent war. And they signalled to the young that ways of thinking and writing about society had to be different, and that the cleansing comic vision had something to do with it.

Both came to look very different in later career. Waugh, who started as an original modern black humorist, died at 62 a Roman Catholic conservative for whom the modern itself was anathema. Amis at 62 is very much alive, ebullient and clubbable, though he has a well-known splenetic edge that cannot be missed in his political observations, social life, or recent writing. The author who started off as an undergraduate communist at St John's, Oxford, in 1941 ("the only party I ever joined"), and declared himself a probable lifetime Labour voter in his Fabian pamphlet *Socialism and the Intellectuals* in

'He describes himself as a non-wet Tory, but with a few Liberal bits'

1957, now describes himself as a non-wet Tory with a few Liberal bits (on abortion, hanging and homosexuality). He has little time for socialism or the intellectuals, and is a well-known scourge of such extraordinary things as Modernism.

Waugh made his living by writing, did his army late, and in effect declined the postwar world. Amis had his war early, catching it in his short stories, and was the postwar world. In 1949 he became a lecturer in English at the University College of Swansea, made his first mark as poet, critic, and characterist, arrogant, very funny lecturer, and moved on to a fellowship at Peterhouse, Cambridge. Then in 1963, when he was changing wives, and probably values too, he broke with it, amicably enough, to live as a successful writer. He is an honorary fellow of his old Oxford college, but very much a London writer and a social testy comic personality.

For both men acquired complex, very English comic poses which had something to do with clubbability, and the club. It was too too for intellectuals, in a society that certainly isn't, one might, if possible be the gentleman-artist. Waugh was a particular master of this: Edmund Wilson once said his literary method was a version of Jowett's advice to gentlemen "Never apologize, never explain." Writing needed no moral or intellectual explanation, and prejudice formed worthy values. Amis, like Waugh, values stylish prejudice, and like Waugh, has a taste for heroes who are self-confessed shits, assuming it's what you like that does you good, and you may have to be a bit nasty to get it.

Yet both are serious writers. Waugh's late florid face was surely a facade over pain, which he unlocked in the portrayal of his own breakdown in *Gilbert Pinfold*, and again in the sense of social, political and above all sexual treachery that haunts the *Sword of Honour* trilogy, which takes comedy to the edge of tragedy. Amis, who hides a taste for decorum behind a kind of literary machismo, disquiets us in the same way. Any reader of recent novels like *Ending Up* (1974), *Jake's Thing* (1978), or the new one due out May 21, *Stanley and the Women*, will find them comedies of desperate matters, dealing with dying madness, and sexual disappointment hardly to be read without a sense of personal pain.

It is part of the irony of Amis's career that he began by being understood as an angry young man, when he is more an angry old one. *Lucky Jim* - which had been a fair way round the publishers before it came out in 1954, and hung around for another year before coming to seem an exemplary text - was a strange form of anger, that fashionable 1950s commodity. Set in a redbrick university, it was certainly a text for the times, when meritocratic opportunism pushed against elitist power.

Yet now, Jim Dixon's adversaries hardly look a serious threat. They were the darling dodges, the elderly lute-players and madrigal singers talking of merrie England and obstructing comic good sense and young love. *Lucky Jim* is a romantic comedy, and comic luck gives Jim the blonde and the good job - a satisfying resolution that later Amis heroes would find harder to achieve. And what Amis really got right was the contemporary tone, expressed in that strongly-voiced, vernacular way of writing that has always been his signature, and which has let him turn particular resentments into comic good sense ("The bloody old tower-faced boot-faced totem pole on a crap reservation, Dixon thought. 'You bloody old tower-faced boot-faced totem pole on a crap reservation,' he said).

It also mattered that this was one of a sequence of books that came out in the high season of fictional change between 1950 and 1956, and caught the postwar tendency or mood. A good many of our now serious generation of novelists - Angus Wilson, Doris Lessing, Iris Murdoch, John Wain, William Golding - were then appearing almost contemporaneously, and the novel itself seemed to matter (as perhaps it begins to do again today). There was no movement, they were all very different writers who went off in all very different directions. But there seemed to be a spirit here, and *Lucky Jim* particularly caught it.

That spirit had to do with virtuous provincialism, no-nonsense realism, and the sounding of a lower-middle-class voice against upper-middle-class language. It was relevant that Amis preferred, and still prefers, to think of himself as first a poet (his substantial *Collected Poems* came out in 1979). Like his good friend Philip Larkin, he was in reaction against the hangover of romantic apocalypticism that still haunted the 1950s: his second novel, *That Uncertain Feeling* (1955), firmly saw off Dylan Thomas and the Welsh bardic spirit in the interests of classic plain-speaking common sense.



Kingsley Amis: the angry young man at 62

So *Lucky Jim* was both a very contemporary novel and one that led back into classical traditions of the English social and moral novel. That became very clear after Amis won the Somerset Maugham Travelling prize (ironically enough, for Maugham had dismissed the so-called "angries" as "scum") and found that the prize was that you had to go abroad. This is the fate suffered by Garret Bowen, in *I Like It Here* (1958), who goes to Portugal, and meets expatriate writers of the worst kind, who talk experimentally in long sentences. All is lost until he finds in Lisbon the grave of Henry Fielding - the great eighteenth-century writer who, says the book, showed fiction could uphold "a moral seriousness that could be made apparent without evangelical puffing and blowing."

Amis now began to look like a more traditional comic writer, like it "here," in postwar Britain, and sustaining in modern form the longstanding social tradition of British fiction. Take a *Girl Like You* (1960), one of his best books, is a very contemporary portrait of sexual mores, but also a modernized replay of Richardson's *Pamela*. Its hero is a

'That cunning vernacular and subtle voicing, gave clarity and fineness to his work'

version of that growingly powerful Amis figure, the male shit-hero, but it is also about the forging of a modern commonsense romanticism. Above all, though, the book had that deft, vernacular precision about current social relations that now looked like Amis's best gift.

It was to become a little less exact through the rapid social and beha-

vioural changes of the 1960s and early 1970s - though *I Want It Now* (1968) and *Girl, 20* (1971) are still notable portraits of changing sexual mores, emotional relationships, and new social types. But his male heroes become more caricaped around by their own desires and certainties: meanwhile, the world outside seems to change beyond their comprehension, and not for the better. Amis appeared to resolve some of his problems of social representation by moving toward attempts at genre fiction: extending James Bond's adventures in the not-very-successful *Colonel Sun* (1968), or exploring his sci-fi interests in his "future fictions," *The Alteration* (1976) and *Russian Hide-and-Seek* (1980).

But he is not always cunning with plot, and he holds, as if for protection, within traditional forms and types of characterization. Yet there was that cunning vernacular,

1922 Born the only child of a South London clerk; scholarship to City of London School and then to St John's, Oxford.
1942 Joined the Royal Signals; left as a lieutenant in 1945.
1943 Married for the first time to Hilary Bardwell; subsequently two sons and a daughter born. Eldest son Martin is a novelist and journalist.
1949 Appointed lecturer in English at Swansea University.
1953 First volume of verse, *A Frame of Mind*.
1954 First novel, *Lucky Jim* won Somerset Maugham Award. An irreverent stab at society that put him in the Angry Young Man camp, and on the Best Seller lists.
1955 *That Uncertain Feeling*.
1960 *Take a Girl Like You*.
1963 *One Fat Englishman*.
1965 Married fellow novelist Elizabeth Jane Howard.
1970 *What Became of Jane Austen*, critical essay.
1972 Edited selected stories of G. K. Chesterton.
1975 *Rudyard Kipling and His World*.
1978 *Jake's Thing*.
Edited *New Oxford Book of Light Verse*.
1979 *Collected Poems 1944-78*.
1980 *Russian Hide-and-Seek*.
Awarded CBE.
1981 Edited *The Golden Age of Science Fiction*.
1983 Parted from his wife.
1984 Started editing poetry column in *Daily Mirror*.

that subtle social voicing, that gave clarity and fineness to his work. And it was always at its best when it seemed driven by some powerful inner charge, a bitterness, a resentment, that both engaged and troubled the reader. *Ending Up* disturbed, bringing to clarity a haunting sense of human mortality that Amis had expressed before. And *Jake's Thing* troubled in another way, with its late-middle-aged sense of the falsehood of sexual relations.

Stanley and the Women will trouble even more. Amis accepts, that while reminding us that a book never says everything its author thinks. It is very well written, and deals with deeply troubling things, which suddenly assault the life of the central character, Stanley Duke, an advertising manager for a tabloid newspaper. Married twice, part of Amis's late life world where the males stupefy themselves with drink to avoid being sexually possessed by their women, Stanley is suddenly confronted with the madness of his teenage son, who thinks he is being watched by cosmic forces. Amis has researched this madness with some care, and the portrait is delicate and compelling. It is also anti-Laingian; for it is when the treatment moves from chemo-therapy into the hands of a woman psychologist who looks into family stress that Stanley finds himself in the role of male victim.

Stanley and the Women is not nice, and in some fundamental sense not exactly humane. These lost relationships can be read in reverse, as due consequence of the life of the Amis shit-hero, encased in his maleness. Yet it is human; and like forcible tragedy it takes us, quarrelling into the pain it clearly feels. Amis, like Waugh, is to some ways an enclosed, cast-off novelist: his now sixteen novels along with his poetry, stories and essays, trace the curve of a career that began to comic buoyancy and now is scarred with something else. Yet there is no mistaking the power of this long dark comedy.

Malcolm Bradbury

Stanley and the Women is published by Hutchinson on May 21, price £8.95.

moreover...
Miles Kington

"The Soviets had reason to worry about Olympic defectors. Los Angeles, as Soviet citizens know, means Hollywood glamour: consumer goods ranging from Ferraris on Sunset Boulevard to black lace scanties in shop windows, walking in the stars' footsteps on the sidewalk outside Sid Grauman's Chinese Theater, beautiful dachas in Beverly Hills, and scores of fast-food outlets. How are you going to keep them down on the collective farm, once they've seen Hollywood?" (Arnold Beichman, in the *Los Angeles Times*.)

The scene is the Russian consulate in Los Angeles, a little-known outpost of the Russian empire. Boris, the consul, is moodily studying a pair of black lace scanties. He quickly puts them back in a drawer when the door opens and Brad enters.

Brad: Hi. You the Russian consul?

Boris: Maybe I am, maybe I'm not. If it's about getting out of Afghanistan, I definitely am not.

Brad: No, no, you can have Afghanistan. I've come about asking for asylum in Soviet Russia.

Boris: This is a little unusual. In fact, this is very unusual. I would go so far as to say that we do not have machinery for offering asylum in Russia. In the same way, East German soldiers do not have instructions about what to do if they see someone climbing the Berlin Wall from West Berlin.

Brad: Yeah, well, I wasn't thinking about climbing the wall. I just want to get to Russia.

Boris: May I ask why you want to go? Why should you want to leave wonderful Los Angeles?

Brad: Oh come on, Boris! OK if I call you Boris by the way?

Boris: How do you know my name?

Brad: It's on your door. Look, you know and I know that Los Angeles is the pits. What has it got?

Boris: Hollywood glamour? Brad: Boris, Boris, you call being run down by Italian sports cars in Sunset Boulevard glamour?

Boris: (defensively) I have had very good hamburgers here.

Brad: And now, to crown it all, the Olympics are coming! I've got to get out! Boris: Life in Russia is not always easy.

Brad: I've had the easy life all my life and its killing me. I need a change. And when I heard that the Russians were refusing to come to L.A. I thought they're the people for me! I've heard so much about your corrective farms...

Boris: Collective farms. Brad: And nice old-fashioned cars, and good plain underwear, and your restaurants... what's the service like in your restaurants?

Boris: Good. Not bad. Not good. Slow. Very slow.

Brad: A slow-food outlet! Great! It's a whole different attitude to life. Can you fix me six months on a collective farm?

Boris: No. Brad: Then I'll have to apply for a kibbutz in Israel. Boris: (Hastily) No, no, let's talk.

Brad: That's better. Boris: But first, perhaps you can tell me something. (He pulls the lace scanties out of the drawer.) What are these for?

Brad: I've no idea. I've only seen them in shop windows. Don't you have them in Russia?

Boris: No. Brad: Boy, this really is the country for me! Now, let's get down to business.

Improving lines on the face of TV

People who watch television never know quite how bad their picture is until they see something better. Most of us lived with the old 405-line screen for more than 20 years but today, well versed on to 625 lines, the pictures of yesterday look as if they had been shot through an egg slicer.

If the technicians of Sony have their way in 10 or 15 years time we will feel the same way about the picture we now take for granted. High definition television, once the stuff of the TV buff, has suddenly become the industry's huzzword.

The system could bring cinema quality to homes

Last week, only the day after the BBC had been given permission to go into partnership with the commercial sector to launch a Direct Broadcast Satellite system, the corporation's director general, Alasdair Milne, could be heard musing most publicly about HDTV. Did it really make sense, he seemed to be asking, for the corporation and its stablemates to spend £400m on DBS in 1987 when what the public of 1990 might want is better reception, perhaps in preference to a vast choice of programmes?

Channel 4's chief engineer, Ellis Griffiths, is one of the few British broadcasters who has seen HDTV in action during its one public appearance at an industry exhibition in Las Vegas earlier this year. He was overwhelmed by the quality of its 1,125-line. "The display was on a large screen about 10 feet wide. You could just about



TV Times: watching an old 405-line set from the Fifties and (right) the present and future formats

discern the line structure from five feet away," he says. HDTV supporters say that, coupled with a more oblong screen, advances in noise reduction, digital recording equipment and stereo sound, the system could give home

television the clarity of the cinema screen with the reliable colour brilliance of coventional TV. British viewers will have to wait until the International Broadcasting Conference in Brighton in September before

passing judgment. At the moment, Sony does not have one HDTV set in the country, and does not expect to deliver to any customer for at least another year. The price for a camera, the two requisite video recorders, and a large screen will be more than £550,000. Business and medical users are likely to be early buyers, and so, says Sony's UK deputy managing director, Stuart Sanson, are those involved in defence projects.

How long it will take the 1,125-line HDTV screen to reach the domestic living room is another matter. The technology involved is complex and expensive. HDTV's principal gain to quality comes through increasing the number of screen lines, but it also incorporates a host of features to improve the picture and sound signal.

Satellite broadcast would be instantly available

Such sophistication inevitably means a wider signal than that of today's television. To relay the necessary information in a conventional way requires a broadcasting band width of 30MHz compared with 8MHz on a 625-line mono television satellite signal. On that basis, Unisat, the system chosen by the Government for the BBC project, would be hard pressed to carry one HDTV channel, though it could transmit three of today's.

But companies and research units throughout the world are trying to compress the signal to around 8MHz, and are optimistic that they will do so by 1987.

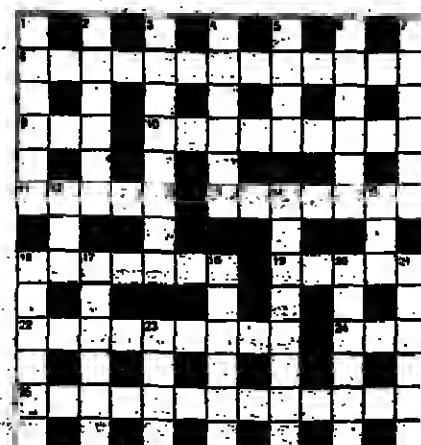
One possibility is fitting each television set with a computer memory. At the moment, every dot of a television picture is flashed to the set 50 times each second. In the high definition set, the memory would "learn" those parts of the picture which do not change, enabling the satellite to restrict the transmitted information and so, reduce the transmitted signal - but, at the same time, raising the price of the set.

HDTV would have one advantage over previous technological advances however. Broadcast by satellite, it would be instantly available throughout Britain and beyond. The slow spread of 625-line transmitters throughout the country is a thing of the past. High definition may be a thing of the future.

David Hewson

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 344)

ACROSS
8 Human antiquities expert (13)
9 Un-hit run (3)
10 Grave slab (9)
11 Family division (5)
12 Closest (7)
16 Arms store (7)
19 Over length (5)
22 Irish prime minister (9)
24 East Germany (1,1,1)
25 Noisy row (8,5)
DOWN
1 Jumble (6)
2 Partition (6)
3 One-sided (8)
4 Widespread (6)
5 Occupations (4)
6 Midpoint aerial (6)
7 Town road (6)
12 Head (3)
14 Distorted thing (8)
15 Serious offence (8)
16 Designer (6)
17 Ram's horn (6)
18 Mammory (6)
20 Curiosity (6)
21 Negall soldier (6)
23 Wife man (4)



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ACROSS: 1 Magnus 4 Puddle 7 Rain 8 Remigius 9 Silverhead 13 Boy 16 Saint Agnes Eve 17 Fee 19 Ringside 24 Aerosol 25 Buz 26 Mynah 27 Torero
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Tomorrow: The Times Guide to the European elections

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THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

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BOOKS

A story of how a work of art was brought to life

The sense that, whatever misfortune or injustice she suffered, she would never be able successfully to explain her case - this was something she appears to have acquired early and never to have lost. She believed that "persecution mania" have always been the victims of real persecution "and usually still are" - Society - particularly British society - was cruel and hypocritical. "Everbody's trying to hurt first, to get in the dig that will make him or her feel superior, feel triumph." The stale atmosphere of bad hotels and lodging houses remained forever in her lungs. Tough luck pursued her like a vindictive landlady.

So it is hardly surprising that, when the actress Selma Vaz Dias rediscovered and broadcast the work of Jean Rhys, there was a nasty neighbour on hand to spoil some of the fun:

My bitter enemy next door is now telling everyone very loud and clear that I'm an impostor 'impersonating a dead writer called Jean Rhys'. She's accused me of every crime in the calendar from adultery through to poisoning to whatever she stands for. Xenophobia? What's that? From adultery to Xenophobia...

And she begins to contemplate how she would succeed in proving her identity.

I suppose that if you have worked hard for success as a writer, achieving little recognition beyond a small circle, and if you then spend many years missing-presumed-dead, and are finally accused of impersonation, you do feel impelled to fight like a cat for your identity. Here she is again in a happier mood:

I don't know why Miss Smith & Co thought I was dead. It does seem more fitting I know, but life is never neat and tidy. I feel a bit like poor old Raspoutine, who was poisoned, stabbed in the front and shot in the back but was still alive kicking and crawling when lying in the snow.

The point is lightly made but seriously meant. She had indeed suffered many blows and she was

James Fenton on the letters behind the book

JEAN RHY'S LETTERS 1931-1966

Edited by Francis Wyndham and Diana Melly
Andre Deutsch, £9.95

believed by many to be either bad or mad.

Thus, when she slaps a neighbour's face and is had up for assault, the court sends her for five days to the hospital of Holloway prison, to find out whether she is potty or not. (She has cried a lot in court.) At the same time (this is 1930) and she is approaching the age of 60 her third husband Max Hamer is becoming involved with crooks in the solicitor's office where he works. But she can't tell anyone or get help from the family because nobody will believe her. Max is not, she says, a bad lot. He's potty. The trouble is she looks potty. There's nothing to do except turn to drink. "I went all of a doodah," Max goes to jail. She contemplates leaving him but cannot help supporting him. And for the rest of this volume this is what, to the best of her ability, she does, while at the same time trying desperately to write *Wide Sargasso Sea*. Max's health fails. His illness hopelessly interrupts her writing.

Years of penury and petty difficulties might make for trying reading but there is no general bitterness in this book. Not in the sense of envious bitterness. She likes recognition when she gets it - it hucks her up on end. But she does not seem to have considered it her right. She is not envious of more successful novelists - her literary judgments are



The young woman who grew, with pain and grief and humour, into a great writer

generous and objective. Recognition is like money and she loves money in a very straightforward way. But she has no idea how to acquire either recognition or money except by writing a very good book indeed. Her integrity as an artist is never in question.

Of those whose recognition kept that integrity on the rails, Selma Vaz Dias is the first to be mentioned. She it was who resurrected the pre-war novels and adapted them for radio,

performing them herself. "Her nature," the editors say, "was dominating, possessive and touchy. As her friendship with Jean progressed these qualities became increasingly obtrusive and were eventually to verge on paranoia." A tough judgement in few words, which even so hardly prepares us for the discovery late in the volume that Selma got Jean to sign a contract making over 50 per cent of the performing rights on all her works and giving her sole artistic

control over all adaptations. This scandalous contract was eventually modified, but the heirs of Selma still receive a large proportion of Jean's posthumous earnings. Francis Wyndham and Diana Melly at Andre Deutsch become progressively the heroes of the book (and not through any self-advertisement either - the book is scrupulously edited by Mr Wyndham and Mrs Melly). It takes a little effort of the imagination to see that the project

they were supporting throughout these years was not the famous novel we all know and like but an unknown quality. The best to be hoped for was a late flowering by a completely unknown lady. Mr Wyndham continued his interest in book and author after leaving Deutsch, and seems, like Miss Athill, to have been supportive, patient, critical and practical. Miss Athill sends down a secretary to get the whole thing down from dictation. Mr Wyndham on receipt of a deranged letter sends a cheque for £100 with advice to take a holiday.

During this last period she is living in Devon, in a small cottage owned by her brother in Chertsey Fitz Payne. As with all her living arrangements, this one begins auspiciously and turns into a nightmare. To this period, a phrase recurs in her letters which, as well as anything, sums up her attitude to life and to her writing. She detests, she says, penny-in-the-slot thoughts and actions. If she lives, she will call her next book *There is no penny and there is no slot*. She tries to tell Selma that writing is not easy, but she feels she cannot convince her. And as she repeats to Mr Wyndham:

There is no penny, no slot. Not thousands of pounds could work that slot if it existed. There is only trying to make something out of nothing. (Except of course disbelieve in oneself and failure and emptiness. And above all waiting for the time when all that does not count.)

But to the end the book gets finished, and on the day of Max's cremation she writes to Miss Athill:

I feel that I've been walking a tight-rope for a long time and have finally fallen off. I can't believe that I am so alone, and there is no Max.

I've dreamt several times that I was going to have a baby - then woke with relief. Finally I dreamt that I was looking at the baby in a cradle - and I was weeping. So the book must be finished and that must be what I think about it really. I don't dream about it any more.

Old pro recorded at work

John Higgins

INTERVIEWS AND ENCOUNTERS WITH VERDI

Edited, introduced and annotated by Marcello Conati
Translated by Richard Stokes
Gollancz, £20

Was Giuseppe Verdi really the Bear of Busseto, ready to snarl at, and even maul, anyone who dared penetrate his country retreat? The majority of those who were allowed in for the first time, quite often through an introduction from his publisher, Ricordi, or from the librettist of his last own opera, Arrigo Boito, found the most civil and welcoming of bears. De Laurens, one of Verdi's most fervent supporters in France, describes him as a mixture of child and patriarch: "a patriarch before his time, a child with a grey beard".

Indeed none of the encounters in Marcello Conati's engrossing collection ends in a mauling, although there is a certain smugness on the part of some visitors that they managed to tame the bear. The truth surely was that Verdi had little taste for socializing. He believed in conserving his strength by retiring early, starting work often at dawn, and breathing in the country air whenever possible. Verdi preferred to get on and write operas. And how right he was not to waste his time or purveyors of musical gossip is proved by a "memoir" such as that by Caterina Pignatelli, which is pure inflated nonsense. The admiration Verdi rightly liked was spontaneous outbursts from the fields suddenly erupting into the city. It is curious from Lombardy as Verdi passed by, recorded by a German visitor, or an impromptu demonstration of affection by the crowd at Turin station near the end of his life when he was returning from a *Falstaff* in Paris.

Beyond such vignettes lie valuable information in Verdi at work, both at home and in the theatre, especially on his last two operas. If there is a fault in Conati's collection then it is the concentration on the final years to the exclusion of the middle-aged Verdi. But it is there that the bear really was a patriarch, presumably, that the best material lies and Conati has certainly cast his net far and wide. The editing is scrupulous, the annotations most scholarly and the presentation of each author admirable - sometimes more admirable than the words that follow. The book is in every way worthy to go alongside the same author's *Ferdinand Comenien*. It is essential for all Verdians.

● Operetta. A Theatrical History (Gollancz, £12.95). Richard Traubner's book is one by an enthusiast for enthusiasts. Not much criticism here of a genre that could occasionally do with a little self-examination. The prose may push a bit, but the illustrations are fascinating.

Mum's the word makes a safe DG but a dull book

John Campbell

SPLIT SCREEN
By Ian Trethowan
Hamish Hamilton, £12

and then political editor in the early days of ITN, he switched to the BBC to do Current Affairs programmes in 1963 and moved swiftly up the ladder - Managing Director, Radio; Managing Director, Television; DG in 1977. His greatest attribute - one can only guess from this account - was a safe pair of hands.

From his days as a lobby correspondent Trethowan has not lost the habit of discretion. The bulk of his book is taken up with a record of events long past and political, mostly dead (Butler, Maudling, Macleod,

etc) of whom his careful assessments, though admirably shrewd, balanced, and elegant (see above) revise not a whit the accepted reputations which as a contemporary commentator, he had a hand in forming. The journalist as historian, regrettably, has no fresh insights. (The one exception is that he writes warmly and with unusual sympathy of Edward Heath.) The heart of the book is contained in just three chapters near the end, where he has important personal experience to relate: one on the job of the Director-General and his relationship with the Chairman and the Governors, and two on the political battles which he, in that office, had to fight and the pressures he had to resist.

In these 44 pages there could have been a book. Trethowan's too brief accounts of tussles

with the Callaghan Government over pay policy, the licence fee, and the Anson Committee, and of a number of short-lived political storms about the reporting of Northern Ireland in the early Thatcher years, are the stuff of real memoirs. But the highest issue of his time at the top of the BBC he ducks completely. The role of the broadcasters in the Falklands war is a matter of live controversy to which he could, had he wished, have contributed authoritatively. In fact he devotes to it exactly two pages, concluding baldly that the BBC got the balance "about right". The usefulness of this book is therefore sadly limited. Perhaps he wrote it too soon. More likely it would be simply out of character for him to have revealed more. The very qualities which took him to the top forbid it.

When the towers of Folly fall

Philip Howard

THE MARCH OF FOLLY
By Barbara W. Tuchman
Michael Joseph, £14.95

In her new book Barbara Tuchman, the distinguished American historian, attacks a recurrent theme rather than a period in human affairs. One of her strengths has always lain in finding the connections. In *A Distant Mirror*, for example, she saw the image of our own time reflected darkly in the calamitous fourteenth century. The folly she is describing this time is the propensity of governments to pursue policies contrary to their self-interest, in spite of clear evidence and explicit warnings that the policy will end in tears.

This common curse of mankind, folly and ignorance, she illustrates in four principal events, widely separated in time and character: the decision of the Trojans to pull that fatal horse within their walls; the secular ambition and corruption of the Renaissance popes between 1470 and 1530 that provoked the Protestant Reformation; the pig-headedness of British politicians to assert a right they could not exert, that lost the American colonies; and America's recent betrayal of herself in Vietnam, from which she has still not recovered.

No professional historian, except perhaps Clive, could treat them all with equal authority.

The events are dealt with in ascending order of length, detail, and persuasiveness. Taking in the Woodstock Horse, if it really happened, was a single decision taken by Trojan war lords, infuriated by Ate, whose name you can translate. Suppose, as Folly, The Protestant Reformation, the American Revolution, and the Vietnam morass, were more complex historical events, with many causes and influences. Folly, in Tuchman's technical meaning, no doubt played a large part in each of them. But there were other factors, follies, and even good intentions, sometimes the greatest folly of all.

Tuchman's virtue is to detect a strong, simple pattern in history, and to trace it vividly. Folly, no doubt, has played a large part in human affairs; and always will. But there were other players even in Tuchman's chosen events: luck, social and economic changes, even wisdom.

Minor, major, next Laureate?

POETRY

Robert Nye



Death of a poet

green sky, rose glow off Christmas-white fields; woods bowed in emine, the faintest stem snow-furred; berries burn their slow fire, the robin in...

Of course this is minor poetry, and Frances Horowitz would not have wanted us to pretend otherwise. But it seems to me authentic, the work of a gifted woman who responded poetically to life, and who - as the final poems show - faced the prospect of her own death with much courage.

● When Ronald Bortall was young he was praised to the skies by Leavis. Since then - and maybe as a result - he seems to have been ignorantly ignored by everyone else. Now,

at the age of 78, he should at last take his rightful place among the English poets with the publication of his quite extraordinary volume *Against a Setting Sun* (Allison & Busby, £4.95). I call the book extraordinary because the poetry, vitality, and verve of the verse in it would distinguish it at any stage of any poet's career. Coming, as it does, so late in Bortall's, and after so much public neglect, the book is a kind of testament to the indomitable nature of true poetry.

Not that all the undervaluing of Bortall can be blamed on critical fashion. ... He is a difficult writer to appreciate in that he has not refined just one of his several manners so that its excellence is undeniable, preferring instead to conduct a dialogue with his own experience which comes out on the page as now lyrical, now satirical, now trivial, now profound. In other words, and they might as well be Martin Seymour-Smith's words, in his excellent introduction, "each Bortall volume, but this one most of all, gives the lively and candid record of a whole life, and it therefore breathes life". I shall quote the whole of the short poem containing the phrase which gives the book its title, since its mix of vision and scepticism offers in cocktail form a sharp taste of this poet's mind:

Ever since the State failed to wither I have never pulled my ears with wax To block out the song the Sirens sing. A song I've waited for years to hear. Through a pilgrim's progress on its track I hear it now and I am sailing Happy towards those enchanted rocks Framed against a setting sun that mocks The few fading flowers strewn on my pier.

● Another spectacular and heartening late flowering has been that of Gavio Ewart, now firmly re-established as the witliest and wickedest living writer of light verse in English. The Ewart Quarto (Hutchinson, £3.95) ranges from ballads and haikus and love songs to a Pindaric Ode on the Third Test played at Headingley between England and Australia in 1981. It is all light-hearted and ingenious, and some of it is splendidly filthy. May the poetry critic of *The Times* express the hope that Ewart be appointed the next Poet Laureate? He would, after all, restore to that office some of the true poetic importance of being Court Jester.

Love and all that in Saganland, Belfast, Ohio

FICTION

Nicholas Shakespeare

THE STILL STORM
By Francoise Sagan
W. H. Allen, £8.95TO STAY ALIVE
By Linda Anderson
Bodley Head, £7.95DURING THE REIGN OF THE QUEEN OF PERSIA
By Joan Chase
Virego, £8.95

I've slightly changed my mind about Francoise Sagan. Yes, I know she's never fulfilled the precocious promise of *Bonjour Tristesse*. But to call her last epic wooden would be an insult to trees - *The Painted Lady* must have been composed in a day-dream at the hairdresser - but this new novel has done something to cure my Saganophobia. In it she washes her hair of the twentieth century, exchanges her Aston Martin for a horse and carriage (such as carried the Duc de Sagan, the Prussian character whose name she took), and come up with something which, all right, won't exactly make Steadfast eat his heart out but will make the reader want to lick his finger and turn the pages.

These pages purport to be the journal of a lonely old man who looks back 30 years to the spring of 1832 (the same gap interestingly separates us from the publication of *B.T.I.*). Then, as a young provincial lawyer, he had experienced the hopeless optimism of someone in love with a woman he "was unable to move except in pity." The woman, the aristocratic Flora de Margelasse, fills him with inexpressible jealousy when she falls for one Gildas, a farmer who happens to be a poet. Sensibly, Sagan doesn't inflict on us too much of Gildas's simply execrable verse. Four lines is enough to drive Flora mad. (Another line and I would have joined her.) For a time Gildas manages to satisfy her Lawrencean taste, but then, O horror of horrors - the pain is such I can hardly go on - Gildas falls in love with, yes, you've guessed... Flora's savagely beautiful chambermaid. By the time "this awesome and deadly drama" had eoded in a flurry of duels and masked balls I felt quite faint. Not because Sagan's lines, like Gildas's are sometimes so awful that it becomes compulsory to read between them, but because she is actually a much better and more serious writer than her audience's demands will allow. One interrogator's trick to Northern Ireland is to start off with unpredictable violence, then, without warning, turn nice and talk warmly. This method is adopted by Linda Anderson in her first novel - the best about Belfast since David Martin's *The Task* - yet oddly it is the author, not the reader, who ends up breaking down. Each dawn in this oecropolis

brings some pathetic corpse to light. Everyone has complicity in the death from the Old Testament faces of the Catholic community, cherishing grudges from the past - 800 years of it - to the British soldiers who only focus on these people through a rifle sight. Dan, a medical student, and Rosaleen, his wife, are a young couple caught in a no-man's-land. Linda Anderson explores how each, through no wish of their own, is propelled into opposing camps - Dan into helping the IRA, Rosaleen into talking a lover from the army. Her clipped, terse prose works best in conveying how, in the sour alleys of Belfast, disgust at everything, most of all oneself, becomes "a pleasure and an absolutism." It is less successful in sustaining what should be the story of just two people. A cockatrice caught in her own mirror, she seems transfixed with horror not only by the violence she describes, but by her very real ability to describe it. This horror results first in cold-footed hesitation on first meeting her soldier, Rosaleen is seduced in a cemetery - only to forget the episode completely. Then in a panic-stricken attempt to explain all sides of the story by wheeling on many more characters.

This is rather what Joan Chase does - in a more leisurely way - during the course of her first novel about life on the flowing prairies. Set on a farm in Ohio, it looks at three generations of women (too many) through the inquisitive eyes of four young cousins. Joan Chase writes wholemeal prose and she writes it with energy. By the end though, sated with the taste of yoghurt, and wheatearm and sunflower seed, I felt it was the energy of a cow in a health-food shop.

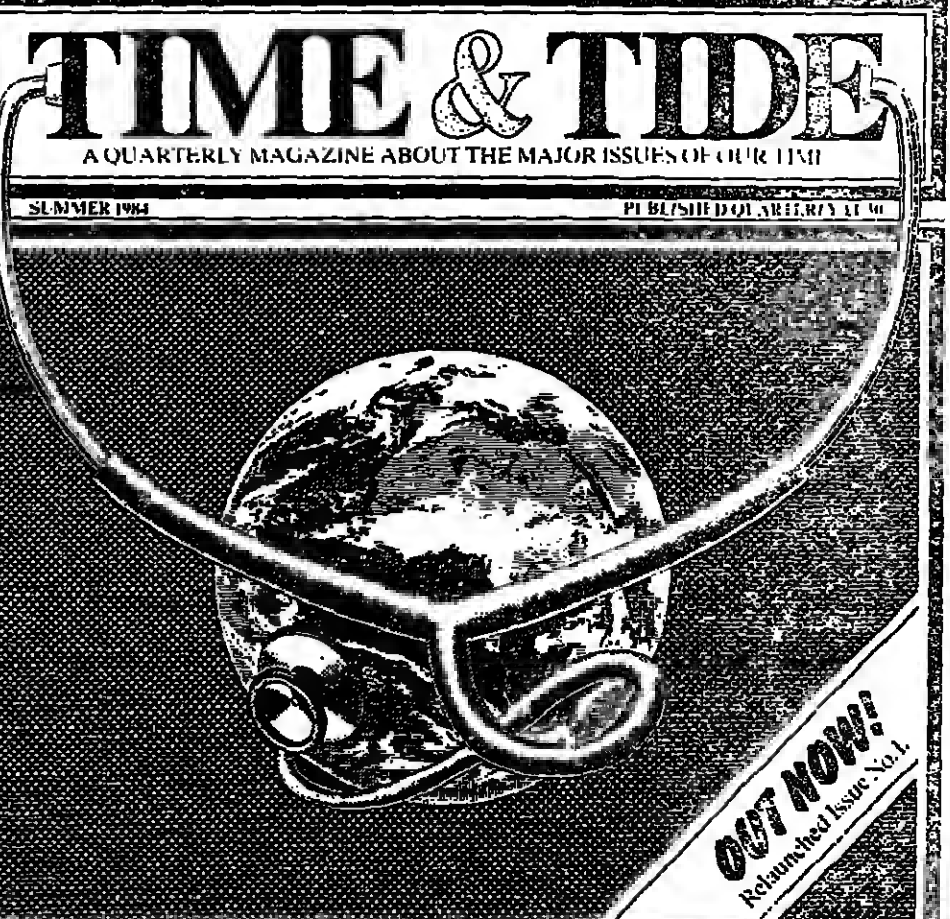
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TAKING THE PULSE OF THE WORLD

THE TIMES DIARY

Toivo's Travels

Sir Geoffrey Howe, and top-level Foreign Office officials are expected to hold secret talks this week with the father of the Namibian Liberation movement, Andimba Toivo ya Toivo, who arrives in London today on his first European visit. It is hoped Toivo ya Toivo, who has just been released after 16 years from South Africa's notorious Robben Island prison, will put pressure on Sir Geoffrey to persuade South African prime minister Botha to pull his troops out of Namibia; talks in Lusaka broke down last week after South Africa again refused to concede to the longstanding UN resolution which demands its withdrawal. Botha is due to meet Sir Geoffrey in London next month.

Toivo ya Toivo, a founder member of Swapo, was expelled from South Africa in 1957 after he had signed a "taped testimony" on South Africa's occupation of Namibia to the UN, hidden in a copy of *Gulliver's Travels*. In 1966 he was arrested after launching Swapo's armed liberation struggle, and was later tried in Pretoria under South Africa's Terrorism Act. He was released from Robben Island on March 1 this year.

Blocking move

The inquest on banker Dennis Skinner, who died after a fall from his Moscow flat, is sending a chill through British cancer specialists. Richard Mould, Mould, who was lecturing on nuclear medicine at the Moscow University Institute at the time of Skinner's death, is convinced he almost met a similar fate. Two KGB agents walked into his fourth-floor room, at the Minsk Hotel, pinned him against the wall, and accused him of breaking currency regulations. One then ominously shut the window. Three days later the agents, Tommy and Yuri, returned to his hotel, huddled him into a car, and then whined and dined him on caviar and cognac. "We would like you to find out in England about the pill given to radiation workers in power stations which stops any effects of the radiation they received." Despite Mould's protests of ignorance, the Russians offered money. He was finally released, and thanked for "surviving two-and-a-half hours of verbal chess".

● Barnsey Labour Party is apparently not well versed in ecclesiastical titles. At a recent discussion on a proposed CND meeting one committee member asked: "Who's this M.G.R. Kent then?"

BARRY FANTONI



"My husband promised a weekend in Paris as soon as the decree absolute comes through."

Lying doggo

We shall never know whether MPs are liars or not - or indeed whether journalists are either. Yesterday's lie-detecting test, which my parliamentary colleague Richard Evans was due to undergo, was called off at the last minute because, like Peter Thurnham, MP, he was considered "not quite right". The House of Commons Committee on Employment, which is investigating the use of the polygraph to vet GCHQ staff, was apparently afraid Evans would print the results. So who is "quite right"? Anonymous persons, they say.

● Having secured Richard Burton to play Winston Smith's interrogator in the film of 1984, Virgin Films is billing him as "winner of seven Academy Award nominations". Will it catch on?

On target

When Lady Olga Maitland was touted for the first president of her Women and Families for Defence, she was adamant that not only Tories were being considered. "I am very choosy", she told me. Yesterday the group named its new president: Lord Trenchard, a staunch Tory, who was Thatcher's Department of Industry minister, and until last year her Defence Procurement minister. His favourite pastime in *Who's Who*? Shooting, of course. The four vice-chairmen appointed to Lady Olga's outfit are Angela Rumbold, Tory MP for Mitcham and Morden; Charles Mosley, chairman of the Conservative's Richmond branch; Toby Horton, Conservative parliamentary candidate for Sedgfield; and finally 17-year-old Greenwich schoolgirl, Janet Parrett. Chairman of Elham Young Conservatives and founder of MAGGIE, the Multi-lateral Action Group for Getting Ideas Expressed.

PHS

Kenneth Fleet on the logic of merging two industrial giants

Leaner - and now bigger

The great majority of this country's top 100 companies are hobbies for their dominant figures, whether lords, knights or still plain squires. Lord Weinstock (GEC), Lord Hanson (Hanson Trust), Lord Forte (Trusthouse Forte), Sir Ernest Harrison (Racal), Sir John Clark (Plessey), Mr Owen Green (BTR) are just a random few of those who are, or are on the threshold, of becoming household names.

In this context, "hobby" does not imply a spare-time interest pursued by amateurs. Nothing could be further from the truth. With isolated exceptions our leading corporations are led by men (as yet, there are no women) who are intensely professional and dedicated to the businesses which influence and condition their lives.

It is their strength to understand the fundamental commercial reality of Britain in the 1980s. This economy is neither big enough nor will it grow fast enough to satisfy their corporate ambitions at home or provide a base to compete internationally against the corporate giants of America, Japan and continental Europe. Electronic communications are rapidly turning the world into a global village.

We are now entering a phase of major mergers among companies already perceived by most of us as big, although not by international standards. In this latest wave of amalgamations, which historically is

the final phase of industry's adjustment to the loss of Empire and the vanished twilight of the Sterling Area, cross-border links will be as common as formal ties between British companies.

This is the new corporatism. It does not signal the end of the fashionable era of "small is beautiful"; it recognizes that unless the universal trading estate does not touch your business, size means survival and, you believe, success.

This industrial logic is not yet widely appreciated. Even the Stock Exchange - which is now sweating under the same sort of international pressures - whistled in collective astonishment when Sir Austin Pearce, chairman of recently privatized British Aerospace, revealed on Tuesday that Thorn EMI, the major force in UK consumer electronics, had initiated talks that could result in a merger.

Mr Peter Laister, who recently succeeded Sir Richard Cave as chairman, could not have put Thorn's thinking more lucidly. The board had wished "for a long time to shift the balance of the group's activities away from being heavily consumer-oriented and concentrated in the UK".

A Thorn-British Aerospace merger presents the Government with the peculiar problem of letting go completely to the private sector a strategic business in which it is pledged to control at least a quarter

of the votes. The state currently holds 48.43 per cent of the shares but the intention is to sell more. This problem, however, is secondary to the issue of monopolies policy.

This is completely out of phase with the facts of commercial life - facts which have been emphasized and given a razor edge by Mrs Thatcher's policies and her economic philosophy. Four years of recession and the abolition of all foreign exchange controls in the autumn of 1979 have proved a more powerful combination of forces than anyone could have foreseen.

Manufacturing industry has become not only leaner and more efficient, it has also been weaned of the temptation to take the recovery of the last 12 months at its face value.

The Prime Minister's doctrines have been learnt the hard way. There were more than 7,000 bankruptcies and 13,432 company liquidations last year: in 1979 the figures were 3,500 and 4,537.

The survivors, right across the corporate spectrum, have made reduction of debt and accumulation of cash their first priority. Companies are now awash with money which they are carefully husbanding, because either they believe the recovery is ephemeral or because they do not see attractive opportunities for new investment.

Freedom from foreign exchange controls enables them to take their

money where they will, but that is barely the half of it. Only since the autumn of 1979 have most British companies felt compelled to measure virtually everything they do, like pricing their products, and virtually everything that is done to them, especially the critical costs of labour and of money, by world standards.

That is one of Mrs Thatcher's new disciplines, though it was hardly understood four and a half years ago. Another is import competition, which has destroyed entire sectors of British manufacturing industry and concentrated minds in the areas that are left. The Government's willingness to use North Sea oil revenues to finance the imported goods the British consumer is determined to possess has had two significant consequences. It has helped the anti-inflation cause in the short term by keeping UK shop prices down, and it has made British companies think deeply about the probable size and shape of industrial structures in 10 years' time.

The conclusions are inescapable. The developed world is rapidly becoming a single market for a wide range of products, and this single market will be largely catered for by multinational corporations.

These are the market forces now driving British companies into higher groupings. A monopoly at home may be a small price to pay to stay in the manufacturing game.

The man who would rule Angola

Jamba, south-eastern Angola. Sir John Leary, the British envoy who flew into rebel-held territory in Angola last weekend to accept the release of 16 Britons taken hostage by Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement, found himself on the receiving end of one of the world's most successful public relations organizations. To many in the Foreign Office it was a distasteful and humiliating excursion - "opera bouffe in a jungle setting" as one diplomat privately called it - but once again Dr Savimbi has shown that he is not to be overlooked in any peace settlement in Southern Africa.

Tight-lipped and obviously uncomfortable on his arrival at Jamba, the rebel's lair in the south-eastern Angola bush, into which a large posse of international journalists had also been flown, Sir John had noticeably warmed to Dr Savimbi's undoubted charm by the end of his visit and was fulsome in his praise of the Unita leader's "great qualities of leadership and colourful style". It is likely that Sir John took away with him a rather more sobering assessment of Unita's potential than London has had for some time.

There is much evidence that the Foreign Office has failed to inform adequately hundreds of British technicians offered lucrative short-term contracts in Angola of the dangers posed by the civil war.



Dr Jonas Savimbi at the Unita base: making life difficult for Luanda

"We base our assessment of the risks on the situation at a particular time", Sir John replied cautiously to questions about this apparent failure of intelligence. There can be no doubt, however, that Dr Savimbi has long been more than a skilful showman making defiant gestures from the safety of a remote and sparsely populated corner of the country which Angola's former Portuguese rulers used with some reason to call the end of the world. Unita has been methodically establishing control over wide areas of the country, isolating towns and making it increasingly difficult for the Luanda regime to govern.

The strategy is one of economic disruption rather than the capture and holding of territory. The crippling of the Benguela railway, once the main outlet to the Atlantic for copper and cobalt from Zaire and Zambia, has been a chief objective and is costing Angola a fortune in lost transit time. Other vital links are severely disrupted by ambushes and landmines. Agriculture, as much because of bad management as the activities of Unita, has been devastated. Once a food-exporting nation, Angola now imports 90 per cent of its needs.

Most estimates suggest that directly or indirectly Angola, a country blessed with diamonds and oil riches, is spending up to 70 per cent of its economic resources on defence. Unita is, of course, only one factor in this cost. Until last February, when Angola signed a ceasefire agreement with South Africa in Lusaka, Luanda was also waging a debilitating war against South African forces along its southern border with Namibia, where Swapo guerrillas with bases in

Angola are fighting for independence from Pretoria.

The briefing map which Colonel Wambu Kasitu, one of Dr Savimbi's intelligence officers, wheels out for the increasingly frequent foreign visitors to Jamba shows a picture of constantly expanding Unita activity. Nearly all of Mexico and Cuando Cubango provinces, roughly the south-eastern third of the country, is claimed to be under total Unita control, while Unita is said to be operative in more than another third of the country. Only the north-western Zaire and Uige provinces, the far north-east corner of the country and the south-western coastal region, are free of the red and green arrows indicating clashes with government troops.

According to Colonel Kasitu, Unita now deploys 20,000 guerrillas and 20,000 "semi-regulars" operating in battalion and brigade strength. During April, Unita claims to have shot down two government helicopters, destroyed 90 trucks, blown up a bridge and killed 728 soldiers of Fapla, the Angolan army, and 69 Cubans fighting with them, against a loss of only 43 of its own troops. It also says it took 52 Angolans prisoner, while 17 of its own men went missing, and captured 832 rifles. If even half this is true, it implies a severe problem for the Luanda regime.

What is certain is that hundreds of trucks are moving freely up and down the so-called "Savimbi trail", a network of rough bush roads, with several branches, running up the

eastern side of Angola. They carry supplies into the heart of the country and up as far north as the Benguela railway and even beyond. South of the railway, from the observation of foreign captives who have been brought down the trail, there is virtually no sign of government counter-insurgency activity, and lorries move at night with headlights on without fear of attracting enemy aircraft.

For the rest of this year, Colonel Kasitu says, Unita intends to concentrate on extending its operations into Zaire province north of Luanda, and the Cabinda enclave with its rich offshore oilfields, where the presence of international oil companies such as America's Gulf Oil would add a new diplomatic dimension to the civil war. That this threat may not be mere bravado is indicated by Unita's recently demonstrated ability to strike at targets lying more than 800 miles away from its base area, such as Kafunde in the north and Sumbe (formerly Novo Redondo) on the coast below Luanda.

Unita admits that it cannot hold any major towns because it would then make itself a target for the Angolan government's air power, mainly Soviet MIG 21s. But the guerrillas argue that they do not need to do so to achieve their aims. They are also prepared to be ruthless. Colonel Kasitu had no hesitation in claiming responsibility for a bomb explosion in the central town of Huambo last month, which may have killed between 100 and

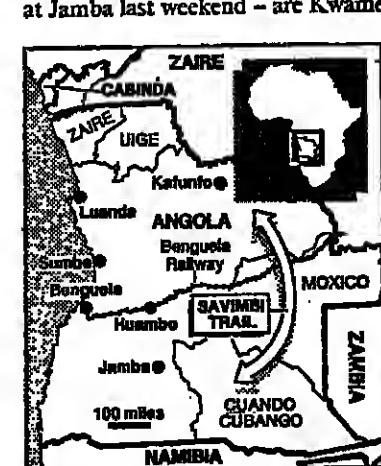
200 people. He also justified the blowing up of a Boeing 737 earlier this year on the grounds that "we had good intelligence that MPLA (that is Luanda government) representatives were aboard".

Dr Savimbi makes no secret of the fact that South Africa has been an important source of support, but denies that he would be unable to survive without it.

The son of a stationmaster on the Benguela railway, and a student of political science at Fribourg and Lausanne Universities, Dr Savimbi is usually given the journalistic label "pro-Western". It would be truer to say he was a pragmatic African nationalist prepared to accept support from almost any quarter to get into power. He is also keen to redress what he regards as a gross injustice from the time of Angola's independence from Portugal, after he fell of the Salazar regime in the mid-1970s.

Unita - the acronym for Uniao Nacional para a Independencia Total de Angola - was one of three nationalist movements fighting the Portuguese. In the confused situation following Portugal's chaotic departure - in which there was external intervention from South Africa, encouraged initially by the United States, as well as from Cuba and the Soviet Union - the Moscow-backed Marxist MPLA movement seized power in a coup d'état, and has never subsequently submitted itself to any test of popular support.

Dr Savimbi's mentors - their pictures were prominently displayed at Jamba last weekend - are Kwame



Nkrumah, Gamal Nasser and Leopold Senghor, the prophet of "Negritude", which asserts the importance of African cultural values.

He demands the withdrawal of the 35,000 Cuban troops which he claims are in Angola, and the formation of a transitional coalition government which would act as caretaker until elections were held. "We seek peace in Angola and reconciliation, as we did in 1974", Dr Savimbi declared at the welcoming ceremony for Sir John last weekend. "But until then we shall firmly hold on to our arms and maintain our hearts open to dialogue."

Michael Hornsby

Tireless fighter for détente

him after five years as interior minister to head Bonn's foreign ministry, he quickly proved himself a champion of Ostpolitik.

The high point came a year later with the signing of the Helsinki accords in 1975. And though Germany has been powerless to stop the breakdown of relations between the superpowers since, Genscher has worked hard to limit the damage, preserving what was possible in Europe.

His technique is the face-to-face approach. Diplomacy to him is an endless shuttle, and there is scarcely a world capital he has not visited. He makes about 60 journeys a year, and must have flown as far as the moon and back several times. His stamina is remarkable. When



Chancellor Kohl made his first trip in office to America in November 1982, Genscher had to go to Moscow for Brezhnev's funeral. But no sooner was the ceremony over than he was on the plane, for the White House.

Genscher is not an intellectual heavyweight or innovator in the fields of diplomacy and strategy. His watchwords are continuity and reliability. He wants his country to be seen by friends and adversaries alike as a steady, dependable, moderating influence in world affairs. But he has certain fixed goals which he pursues through thick and thin. Of these, European unity is perhaps the most important.

Here too there have been disappointments. Genscher's hopes

Ronald Butt

Activists married to their anger

Tolerance is the hallmark of morality in our time, and there are few absolutes that guide the personal and social behaviour of individuals. Nothing is deemed more shocking than the appearance of being shocked.

Yet for one social sin there is no tolerance and no disposition to apply the maxim that to understand is to forgive - and that is anything that can be categorized as "racism". It is a word which means what the user wants it to mean. For practical purposes it can be made to cover anything from a vaguely preferential personal response towards people of the same race or stock, to the full apparatus of social and political segregation in South Africa which is called apartheid.

In Britain, the excesses of race-relations fanatics have too often tended to exacerbate - by the humourless application of dogma and legal sanctions - the very social problems that these enthusiasts have created, by their persistent resistance over decades to every attempt to contain the level of immigration to easily assimilated proportions.

But it is when apartheid in South Africa is discussed that calm, reason and any tolerant wish to understand are thrown aside in exchange for bitter (often, it seems, among people who become attached to their rage as Queen Victoria did to her grief), that it forbids any attempt to try to understand the human frailty and fear that underlies apartheid.

There is no human society which does not feel an urge to protect its own identity and way of life. That is inevitably as true of European South Africans as it is of Britons or Israelis. How could they not feel that their identity and way of life would not be threatened if they suddenly formed a 20 per cent minority of the South African electorate?

Of course, in terms of pure democratic theory they should accept it. But we are dealing in realities, and the plain fact is that the total change wanted by the anti-apartheid fanatics could not come about without great bloodshed, including many of the Africans for whom they claim to speak.

The white South Africans are defending their interest with an evil system, and the Homelands policy is visited even in its own terms by unfair application. Many chances have been missed of bringing the black population towards political responsibility. But we have to start from where we are. It is better to recognize and try to build on such improvements as are peacefully in prospect than to seek theoretical democracy at the price of cataclysm, especially with the example before us of other African states which have switched suddenly to universal suffrage and then exploited it for despotism.

The anti-apartheid fanatics should look into their own hearts and ask themselves whether the reality of compassion is being eaten away by righteous rancour. Even a sinning Afrikaner deserves a little understanding. If Archbishop Huddleston and his friends are prepared to stand rigidly against any compromises in order to achieve their total solution, whatever its devastating consequences, that would be a moral arrogance which could only harm the people whose interest they have at heart.

Paul Jennings

Reality night at the Cordwainers' Hall

Most of us who know nothing whatever about the City livery companies (and that is most of us, isn't it?) have a vague picture of jolly old boys coming in from South Mimms or Esher, in dinner jackets, accompanied either by the solemn son or nephew whose introductory dinner this is, or by a contemporary crony or, on Ladies' Night, by a discreetly jewelled lady with very recently set hair. And we feel that none of them would have the faintest idea how to wain cord, coop, carpent, chandle tallow or wax, merrington or fish.

Some of them may be in commodity dealings faintly connected with the name of their company, if it is something like the Leather-sellers or the Drapers'. Doubtless some in the Cordwainers' even know that the word denotes shoemakers, being derived from Cordoba, where they once made shoes from goats' leather. But surely most of them are a great deal more proficient as accountants or insurance men than as Loriners (makers of horses' bits), Armourers and Brasiers, Pewterers or Skinnerers.

Surely the time has come for a hit of rethinking. It is entirely to the good that the City should not die at night, that among all that cold empty glass and stone there should be these little secret pockets of warm convivial mirth and life, greetings on old oak landings under portraits of worthies often by the late James Gurney or his many earlier, nineteenth-century equivalents, dinners under chandeliers, port and male laughter under dark old panelling, a tradesman's imitation of that adolescent pals-for-ever collegiate life, maintained in its most concentrated form in the Inns of Court.

There has to be some continuity, however slight, with real life. It is true that we do still have butchers, and drapers. But the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers are doubtless aware that spectacles were invented in 1290 and the Fletchers that the bottom dropped out of the arrow market some time ago. Even the least medieval-sounding, the Fanmakers (delicious little hall just behind St Botolph's, off Bishopsgate) can't have had much reality since the days of Oscar Wilde's Lady Windermere.

It would be perfectly possible for the same effortless ability at re-creating tradition which went into the restoration of many war-bombed City halls exactly as they were, only with the gilt more gilt, to go into creating instant traditions which would fill this gap in continuity and give a faint connexion with the industrial world from which goats' leather shoes disappeared ages ago.

A splendid way to start would be with the Vapourers' and Shovelers' Company. The railway has been with us long enough now to be traditional in its own right - the steam side of it at least; indeed it is possible that by the time the Master Ticker Collector was proposing the toast at their fiftieth anniversary dinner in a hall looking as though it could have been built at any period since 1600, juggernaut motorways could have made the railway as obsolete as the trade of fletching is now.

"Vapourers' Hall" sounds totally convincing. So does the Worshipful Company of Acassers. As a matter of fact, industrial "relations" in Britain being what they are, the work of Acas will have increased and this would be one of the companies, like the Butchers', that still had a connexion with something that was actually going on. The word "Acassers" also suggests some forgotten medieval activity - the Clerk of the Exchequer acrossing the King's taxes, perhaps.

When you come to think of it, some of the existing companies sound pretty marginal even for medieval times, when there must have been at least as many Haters, Thatchers, Stonemasons (say) as Fishmongers. Perhaps that is why Microchip Hall or the Systems Analysts' Company could never sound right, at least to present-day cars.

The Worshipful Company of Tram and Trolleybuswrights, Waffle Makers' Hall, the Crystal Setmakers' Company, Croqueters' Hall and many others, however, could fit in more and more snugly with those Pewterers and Fletchers and Coopers, while remaining equally remote from whatever it is the old boys from South Mimms and Esher actually do, or did, for a living.

Michael Binyon



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE TOURNQUET

The Iran-Iraq war has long been known to the Western media as "the Gulf war", but until lately that has been something of a misnomer. The main hostilities were on land rather than in the Gulf, and the six Arab states which make up the Gulf's south-western coastline — Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, The United Arab Emirates and Oman — were not directly involved. Iraq has only a very short coastline at the head of the Gulf and this was easily blockaded by the Iranian navy from the very beginning of the war.

That blockade, supplemented since 1982 by a Syrian blockade of Iraq's pipeline outlet to the Mediterranean, has put Iraq at a severe disadvantage in the war, reducing its oil exports to a relative trickle through Turkey. Without generous financial support from some of its Arab neighbours — mainly Kuwait and Saudi Arabia — Iraq could never have kept fighting until now. But, in its growing anxiety to bring the war to an end, Iraq has naturally set itself the task of reciprocating the Iranian blockade, or at least interfering as much as possible with Iran's oil exports.

That objective was widely publicised last summer when it became known that France was lending Iraq Super-Étendard aircraft, which, it was thought, would make it easier for Iraq to attack the main Iranian terminal at Kharg Island, or tankers in its

immediate vicinity, with Exocet missiles. Iran responded by warning that, if it were prevented from exporting its own oil through the Gulf, it would see to it that no oil got out of the Gulf from any source. That clearly was a direct threat to Western as well as Arab interests, since Western Europe and Japan are both still heavily dependent on oil imports from the Gulf, and it prompted President Reagan to say that the United States would take whatever action was necessary to keep the oil supply lines open.

But until the last few weeks all of that remained in the realm of threat and hypothesis rather than fact. It is only very lately that Iraq has begun to make repeated and apparently systematic attacks on neutral oil tankers using the Kharg Island terminal. And it is only this week that Iran has begun to retaliate against tankers serving the ports of supposedly neutral Arab states. Two Kuwaiti vessels were attacked on Sunday and Monday, and yesterday for the first time a Saudi tanker was attacked "by an unidentified aircraft" close to the main Saudi oil port of Ras Tanura.

Although Iran has not yet explicitly acknowledged responsibility for these attacks, there is no real doubt that that is where they come from. Iraq has no interest in alienating its Arab supporters; American intelligence reported Iranian, but not

Iraqi, aircraft close to the Kuwaiti ships at the time of the attacks; and Iran's Supreme Defence Council warned on Tuesday that "if the Gulf was not safe for all, it would be safe for none" — a statement which Iran is hardly entitled to make, given that it is Iran which has consistently made the Gulf unsafe for Iraqi trade and has rejected all proposals for a ceasefire which included lifting the blockade.

Iraq, in effect, has called Iran's bluff and Iran is now proving that it was not bluffing. It has not yet been done in quite the dramatic way that some scenarios envisaged. Kharg has not been "knocked out"; nor has Ras Tanura; and the Strait of Hormuz has not been blocked. But if things continue as they are going, oil supplies from the Gulf are going to be seriously affected, and, at very least, prohibitive insurance rates are going to affect world prices. The West which (if Japan is included) is the main customer and therefore in a sense the main financier of both sides in the war, can no longer pretend that it does not affect Western interests. Some kind of Western intervention may very soon become unavoidable. It may be that the only way the West can now secure freedom of navigation for neutrals in the Gulf is to provide naval escorts with all the risk of escalating conflict that that implies.

NEUTRALITY IS AS NEUTRALITY DOES

Few federations are as catholic as the Council of Civil Service Unions. Its seven constituent associations range from the hard left dominated Society of Civil and Public Servants to the hard right Prison Officers Association, from the First Division Association, which includes permanent secretaries among its 8,000 members, and the 200,000-strong Civil and Public Services Association which represents the production lines in Whitehall's clerical factories. Political fluctuations within associations can be as swift as they are baffling. Yesterday, for example, Mr Alistair Graham, moderate arch secretary of the CPSA and arch proponent of the "new realism" within the TUC, survived a fierce attack on his leadership by the Militant Tendency thanks to an alliance of old left, moderate left and centre right. Today's CPSA election results are too close to call in advance. But Mr Graham could find himself saddled with a left wing executive as well as a left wing conference. In fact, the only phenomenon to unify the Civil Service unions — at least theoretically — is a mention of the Prime Minister's name, particularly after the removal of unions from the Government Communications Headquarters.

The First Division Association, who meet in annual conference today, have found themselves in a particularly delicate position in trade union terms since the Conservative restoration in 1979. In 1977 the FDA, after much debate and heartsearching, affiliated to the TUC. Ever punctilious, the top civil servants' union consulted Mr Prior, then Opposition spokesman on employment, and asked if such a move would jeopardize their prized political neutrality in the eyes of a future Tory administration. Mr Prior said it was a matter for them.

What swung the FDA into the TUC was a belief that the corporate state was here to stay (though no FDA man worth his draftsmanship would put it so crudely or clearly), that TUC-Government discussions were the supreme forum in which big issues like pay were determined. It was felt, therefore, that the FDA, the only Civil Service union to remain outside the TUC, should add its brainpower and tactical skills to the growing white-collar element inside the labour movement.

Their tactics and timing proved unfortunate. Mrs Thatcher's arrival in Downing Street two years later changed the rules by which the game is played. Mr Prior's assurance began to look thin. Three times in the past five years, the FDA has acted like an orthodox member of the TUC in advising its members to take industrial action (it never instructs). After another agonized debate, and an assurance from Mr Murray that the TUC was not in the business of toppling democratically elected governments, the FDA decided in 1982 that Conservative employment legislation was a trade union issue and not a political one, and joined the TUC's campaign against it. No Civil Service union has codified "political" and "trade union" issues. They decide ad hoc on which matters it is proper to abstain in order to convince themselves that they have preserved some national neutrality as public servants. No civil servant could muddy these waters more skillfully than Mr Alistair Mackinley, a senior figure in the FDA, who puts it thus: "One man's wider issue could be another man's narrow self-interest and a third's political stance".

The effectiveness of the FDA as a force for reason within the TUC may be greater than its

numbers suggest. With the Post Office Engineering Union, for instance, the FDA was instrumental in ending the corrupt TUC practice whereby the composition of its council was fixed by the big battalions. Now all unions with a membership in excess of 100,000 have an automatic seat and the smaller unions fill a further 11 seats by ballot. The FDA has also ensured that the TUC's public services committee recognizes the complexities of such issues as freedom of information. But these little touches of the tiller hardly justify professional political neutrals staying on a ship whose crew is so overtly partisan, and whose course is set to engage this particular ministerial enemy.

Ironically one of the professional issues that has come to preoccupy the FDA is threats to the political neutrality of career civil servants. Continued membership of the TUC is certainly one of those. Since the FDA's members serve ministers more directly than any other unionized civil servants, it should reverse its decision of 1977 and pull out of the TUC. The membership might feel bereft; and the TUC would lose a small but distinct voice for reason. But the preservation of an impeccable career public service is an overriding value. A withdrawal of the FDA would also have implications for senior officials in the Institution of Professional Civil Servants and the SCPS. Strictly speaking, any civil servant of assistant secretary rank and above is sufficiently important either as an adviser or a manager to warrant non-TUC status. Below that level, the problem is not so acute. Two tier membership within a TUC affiliated union would be messy in organizational terms, but civil servants are good at managing organizational messes.

SPOT THE RADICAL

Mr Norman Fowler has now whipped away the silk handkerchief and pulled four special committees of inquiry out of his departmental hat. These white rabbits will now nibble away at different but overlapping areas of social security, digesting information on behalf of a central co-ordinating unit with the Department of Health and Social Security. It may seem churlish to greet such a welcome and enterprising approach to policy with some scepticism, but an early warning is needed. It is not yet clear whether this will amount to more than a political conjuring trick, whether it can develop into a genuine attempt to re-examine the fundamentals of one third of total public expenditure.

Britain's social security system is crying out for fundamental reassessment. Its cost has grown by more than a quarter, in real terms, over the past five years — and not only because of the rise in unemployment. It will continue to rise, not so much because of demographic pressures (though these will mount again after the turn of the century) but because of the rising expectations built into the new pensions system, the demand for better income provision for the disabled and the costly need to fill in the "poverty trap" in which low-earning families find themselves.

Mr Fowler's piecemeal approach is not to be condemned; we have seen too many stately royal commissions run into the sand to criticize his pragmatic policy of launching several satellite committees and using his own civil servants to co-ordinate their work. It does, however, have some dangers.

The most obvious is that it will fail to provide an overall picture of the spending pressures inherent in today's system, together with the demands for its improvement. The Government's green paper on long-term public spending gave only the slightest hint of these. If that was painted with too broad a brush, all the little social security inquiries offer us is a series of miniatures. Yet without some conception of the scale of future spending, it is impossible to form rational views on the need for change.

The second is that conclusions may be influenced by the order in which these committees complete their work. For example, the precursor of them all, Mr Fowler's pensions inquiry, but decisions taken on pensions radically affect other benefits and their financing. Thirdly, there are some major benefits — such as unemployment pay — that seem to have fallen between several stools.

The central report which it will produce must be judged by the vigour with which it tackles three fundamental issues. The first is the overlap between taxes and means-tested benefits; the second is the mismatch between the present systems of income tax and working people's national insurance contributions. The third is the most crucial of all. The present system of cash benefits is an anomalous mixture of benefits based on a dubious insurance principle. A Government which for five years has simply wrung its hands over the rising cost of social security must now decide where its priorities lie. Should not a modern social security system concentrate on providing a decent minimum income to its citizens, according to age and condition and cease to confuse its role with that of a private insurance company?

The most obvious common feature of these questions is that they involve the raising of revenue as well as the paying out of cash benefits. It is no good Mr Fowler and his teams reaching conclusions on, say, tax thresholds or national insurance if Mr Lawson does not agree, since there are no prizes for guessing who would win in cabinet. Yet the Treasury's role in this initiative is none too clear. It must be a full partner in this review.

Linking education and industry

From Mr David A. Smith

Sir, Whilst the recognition of the primacy of education in future wealth-creation by Sir Kenneth Corfield (May 11) is timely, it is rather doubtful whether even a new commission, however radical its recommendations, will be sufficient to effect any change in our society.

There are echoes in Sir Kenneth's letter of parallel appeals for a recognition of the importance of the engineering profession that are made from time to time. Only a particularly interested observer will have noted any effects of the internal reorganisation of the professional institutions which followed the Finlayson report.

If hopes for a real improvement in these intractable positions are to be answered there must be progress seen from two viewpoints: that of the total education system and also that of the prospective skilled employee.

The paramount ethic in the educational system is that of status, sometimes confused by reference to academic excellence, which in any case may be unrelated to industry's requirements. The successive attempts to change the structure of higher education by setting up colleges of advanced technology and polytechnics have in reality fortified these differences in status despite the success of these institutions in educational terms.

Any attempt to make the vocational purpose of education paramount is soon subverted by the different values existing within an entirely self-sufficient system. Because the current content of government is to limit total expenditure, it does not possess the will to level up any differences in status by financial means and so prefers not to acknowledge them.

Meanwhile industry has still maintained its own system of rewards, which has never been weighed in favour of the engineering skills now so clearly required. Only professional engineers in some public services and certain specializations can be compared in status with financial managers. A limited number of young people have the necessary abilities to succeed in highly technical education or training and the prospects must be made clear to them.

If the purely vocational aspect of education was separated from its wider cultural function it could then develop the necessary links with industry and training without threatening the values of academic freedom and an informed and critical society. The two functions would be seen as equally necessary and prestigious, so that individuals could choose or move between them.

Therefore, the elements of new educational institutions do exist already, so what is required for change is a reorganization of these resources on a basis of full equality. If it is objected that public expenditure cannot meet such requirements, then additional funds must be justified by the value of industrial links on the one hand and a much wider social involvement on the other.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID A. SMITH,
56 Rownham Mead,
Horsell,
Avon
May 13.

Irish unity

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Gerald C. Griffith is right to say (May 10) that "Britain's fault in Northern Ireland was to allow Stormont to get away with" injustice to the minority. Catholics in 1800 wanted P.M.'s "integration" in order to escape civil disability and the Protestant Parliament in Dublin which the Orangemen defended against the Unionists of the day, Catholics would have been, and would be, better off without Stormont.

"Integrationist" Carson said: "We have never asked to govern any Catholic. We are perfectly satisfied that ... Protestant and Catholic should be governed from this (Westminster) Parliament, and we have always said that it was the fact that this Parliament was entirely aloof from these racial and religious distinctions, which was the strongest foundation for the government of Ulster." (House of Commons, May 18, 1920).

Why then seek to distance Northern Ireland from Great Britain through legislative devolution — to the encouragement of republicanism, whether constitutional or terrorist? I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,
JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON,
House of Commons,
May 11.

Sixth-form studies

From Dr E. Rudd

Sir, Professor Gareth Williams's letter (May 8) implies that the slight fall in home applicants to universities this year reflects a fall in the demand for university places. This may be true, but as it does not explain the fall to applications, it is not very helpful.

It seems to me that the fall in applications is a reasonable response to the increasing difficulty of gaining a place, which is, itself, the result of reduced Government funding under the excuse that demand will fall. So the prediction that demand will fall becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Yours faithfully,
ERNEST RUDD, Director,
Educational Technology Unit,
University of Essex,
Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester,
Essex
May 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concern to keep up Service morale

From Marshal of the RAF Lord Cameron of Balhousie

Sir, I have followed with interest your articles on Mr Heseltine's proposed defence reorganization and the correspondence generated therefrom. I welcome the Heseltine proposals to cut out ruthlessly the lower level overlap of work both in the military and the Civil Service. Particularly I applaud a close examination of the activities of the Procurement Executive.

I do not, however, agree with some of the proposals as regards the higher organization of the Ministry of Defence as they affect the Service departments, but more particularly the Services themselves.

A point which has not been touched on sufficiently so far in the correspondence on this subject is the effect of the denigration (and I use that word advisedly) of the chiefs of staff will have on single-Service morale.

There was a time when the serviceman took little or no interest in what went on at the top level. Those days are over. The Services are smaller. They are also now better educated. They will see the responsibility for their policy direction being taken from their chief and put in the hands of a "faceless" group in the centre of defence, possibly with quite a percentage of those concerned being civil servants with little or no grass-roots experience or responsibility.

They won't like this. Their Service chief is still to be the custodian of their morale, but will play little or no part in their policy direction. Who carries the can on morale when policy goes wrong and people get killed — the central staff? A weak Chief of Defence Staff and a strong Secretary of State could be a lethal combination.

It is suggested in the Heseltine proposals that there will be a strong tri-Service central staff, doing away with the separate vice-chiefs and the single-Service policy staffs. This tears the heart out of Service departments. It also presumes that an officer who may have spent some twenty years in his own Service can change his spots overnight. It doesn't happen like that.

All my experience tells me he will be looking over his shoulder to the day when he returns to his own Service. If he has let them down, his career may suffer — there is precedent. One proposal of the past that there should be a single list for officers above one-star level in order to avoid this type of victimization has never really been accepted.

I am surprised to see so little mention made of the Defence Council and its future, in the discussion document. Constitution-

ally it is the board of directors of the whole defence system. But it hardly ever meets and usually, when it does, the agenda is of a limited nature. Its future activity should not be missing from discussions on reorganisation.

I would welcome a combination of the Civil Service policy machine and the military policy staff. It has been suggested many times before. The Civil Service were against it on the grounds that they were responsible for giving political advice to ministers — advice which might not please the military. If it comes off, who would head such an organisation — a civilian with no Service experience or a military man? I can foresee difficulties here.

There have been significant changes in the Ministry of Defence over the past decade as a result of many studies and a series of moves made from the Service departments to the centre. My advice is that a secretary of state can make the present system work — after all, he has the overriding position.

We hear much about the "lowest common denominator" solutions coming out of the Ministry of Defence as a result of inter-Service warfare amongst the chiefs of staff. What I believe is that the chiefs, if they stand at the moment with their own limited policy staffs, can make sure that no arguments or aspects of a defence problem remain unexamined. This is a vital role.

The Chief of Defence Staff has the right to tender his own advice, but it goes much beyond that. His office is a few yards from that of the Secretary of State, and he has ample opportunities to make his presence felt.

It really is not just a question of putting official chiefs of staff and his own views — there is and must be a constant dialogue between the Secretary of State and the Chief of Defence Staff and I am sure this happens under the present organisation.

But it is Service morale I am really concerned about; it is important and any reorganisation must take this fully into account. I fear the new scheme, if it comes to fruition, is going to lead to a high state of suspicion between departments and the centre and quite likely a spirit of non-cooperation. This soon gets down to the grassroots. The last state could be worse than the first.

Also, I cannot as yet detect any great savings of posts at the higher level, which is presumably what part of the exercise is all about. CAMERON OF BALHOUSIE, 10 Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Garden, SW6, May 15.

Dangers of asbestos

From Mr David Gee

Sir, Your report "Asbestos cash fight suffers setback" (April 21) contains an obvious but highly misleading misprint and a dangerous anachronism, and as the issue relates to the whole construction industry I'm moved to help set the record straight.

The only known cause of the cancer, Mesothelioma, is asbestos, so your claim that it is "unrelated to asbestos" was probably meant to read "related". The type of asbestos used in constructing the Red Road flats in Glasgow and many others during the fifties and sixties was brown asbestos fire insulation board.

Since August last year both brown and blue asbestos have been regarded as equally dangerous by the Health and Safety Executive and from August this year they have been given the same control limit of 200,000 fibres per cubic metre. The belief that blue asbestos is the most dangerous form of asbestos will take many years to disappear but I'm grateful for this opportunity to speed it up.

Finally, Dr Alistair Downard is unfortunately right to say that more research is needed before a direct

link between the flat project and the workmen's death can be proved. Although it is obvious to lay people that creating large clouds of asbestos dust in confined spaces on construction sites will cause exactly the same range of asbestos diseases as similar clouds in shipyards, power stations and asbestos factories, the reality for construction workers with asbestos diseases is that the absence of epidemiological studies in their industry means that winning justice and compensation will be possible, but very difficult.

The real tragedy is that thousands of construction workers were exposed to asbestos dust in dangerously high concentrations, despite both the knowledge of asbestos disease and protective safety laws being available since 1931.

The case for an epidemiological study of asbestos disease in the construction industry is overwhelming. Yours sincerely,
D. GEE,
National Health and Safety Officer,
General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union,
Thorne House,
Rushey Ridge,
Claygate,
Essex,
Surrey,
May 1.

Inside No 10

From Sir Alfred Sherman

Sir, Whilst appreciating the intellectual right of your leading article ("Inside Number Ten" May 2) on my LSE lecture, I fear that Times readers might gain a misleading impression of what I actually had to say.

In the first place my lecture was not prescriptive, but descriptive and analytical, tracing a process which has been in statu nascendi during several decades. I did not say that I personally "would sooner face political death than become a courier". I was discussing an inherent hazard which "has faced the adviser throughout the ages with a tragic choice". My own situation is not typical of the genre. Patently, I am neither courier nor politicianally dead.

The main thrust of my lecture was that, ever since the turn of the century in this country, continuous growth in the scope of the state has led to more than commensurate growth in the decision-making burdens falling on the head of government, which, both because they are inter-related and because they frequently intrude into summative, cannot be delegated.

This paradox — a growing burden of decision-making which at one and the same time effectually diminishes the scope for delegation — calls for advanced policy search and monitoring which in turn generate the need for policy assistance which must be an extension of the head of government's combined political and intellectual will.

I did not so much "denounce the Civil Service and call for innovation, creativity, fantasy or isolation" as take the nature of the Civil Service, nationalised industry bureaucracy and "establishment" in general for granted. I argued that insofar as one has a career Civil Service (or indeed an hierarchical

structure of any kind) certain attitudes will tend to predominate in the upper echelons.

Because the Civil Service and establishment structures have been perceived by decision-makers as difficult or impossible to change radically within time-scales relevant to political action, successive heads of government have sought to complement them by bringing in loyal outsiders whose different provenance and life-styles are reflected in different approaches.

Yours respectfully,
ALFRED SHERMAN,
10 Gerald Road, SW1,
May 8.

Mr Botha's visit

From Mr P. J. Barlow

Sir, I have nothing against Mr Botha's visit to this country. I hope both he and Mrs Thatcher will learn something from it.

You are, however, quite wrong in suggesting (leading article, May 8) that "how far a system designed to penalize a man for the colour of his skin is worse than one designed to punish him for his opinions and beliefs could evoke philosophical discussion without end".

The colour of my skin is genetically determined. I cannot help or change it. My opinions and beliefs, on the other hand, I choose for myself. If the worst comes to the worst, I can always keep them to myself.

It is this crucial distinction that makes the South African political system uniquely repugnant. I am sure our Prime Minister will make this clear to them. So should you.

Yours etc,
P. J. BARLOW,
Annandale
Minard,
Inveraray
Argyll,
May 8.

Putting opera in its place

From Mr Mark Aldridge

Sir, Your recent report (May 8) of the eccentric and controversial production of *Rigoletto* at the Maggio Musicale festival touches a raw nerve. Even in this distant outpost of culture we have recently been given by Scottish Opera both *L'Elisir d'Amore* and *Tosca* set in the regime of Mussolini. In *Turandot* the anonymous hero is Puccini himself and the slave girl, Liu, turns out to be his housemaid.

Opera 80 offered a Japanese *Così fan Tutte* and a 1920s *Traviata*, with Violetta and her friends doing a Charleston in act one. The RSC set their *Comedy of Errors* in a circus and enlivened *Henry VIII* with a ragtime band. The Manchester Royal Exchange company present Hamlet (the glass of fashion and the mould of form) in jeans.

Many of these productions had something to commend them, but could the artistic directors of opera and theatre companies be asked not to allow originality to become a cliché?

Yours faithfully,
MARK ALDRIDGE,
The School House,
Main Road,
Wylam,
Northumberland,
May 12.

'Law of the heavy mob'

From the Reverend John T. Watson

Sir, How right you are (leading article, May 12)! There can never be such a thing as peaceful picketing. Any approach, even by one individual, to the anonymous individual, if the object of the "conversation" is to object to something which the person addressed is doing, can be intimidatory — witness how the adrenalin begins to flow when a motorist is flagged down by a policeman!

To say, as some do, that pickets only want to talk to the so-called strike-breaker is nonsense; it is well known why the strike has been called.

The Government should stop this invasion of the citizen's rights now, while it is in power. This is what some of us voted them in to do.

Sincerely yours,
JOHN T. WATSON,
16 Beveridge Road,
Eastbourne, Sussex.

From Mr R. A. Leeson

Sir, Jimmy Reid (feature, May 14) has a short memory. Twelve years ago, when the UCS (Upper Clyde Shipbuilders) workers were taking "illegal" action, occupying their workplaces to save their jobs, they asked for and got the support of millions of people throughout the trade union and labour movement.

No one, as far as I remember, certainly not Arthur Scargill, gave the pompous lectures on how to conduct themselves in order to deserve that help. Yours faithfully,
R. A. LEESON,
18 McKenzie Road,
Broomhouse, Hertfordshire,
May 14.

Curb on aliens

From Professor Graham Zellick

Sir, While the proposal to subject foreigners in this country to different rules in relation to public demonstrations is neither attractive nor practical, it is interesting to note that our law already distinguishes between aliens and others in respect of certain comparable activities.

Under section 3 of the Aliens Restriction (Amendment) Act, 1919, it is an offence punishable by 10 years' imprisonment for an alien to attempt or do any act calculated or likely to cause sedition or dissatisfaction amongst the civilian population; and by three months' imprisonment if he promotes or attempts to promote industrial unrest in any industry in which he has not been bona fide engaged in the United Kingdom for the previous two years.

I assume prosecutions for these offences are unknown. Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM ZELICK,
Faculty of Laws,
Queen Mary College,
University of London, E1,
May 10.

College's third option

From Mrs Gillian Shephard

Sir, I refer to the article on the future of Wymondham College (May 11). I am at a complete loss to understand how your reporter, Mr Colin Hughes, could have failed to include in his article the third option for the future of this school, which I discussed with him at greater length and in greater detail than the two options he chooses to include.

The third option, of course, is to continue to run the college, possibly in a modified and certainly in a more cost-effective way.

May I emphasise that the three options for the future of the college are still being actively considered by Norfolk Education Committee.

Yours faithfully,
GILLIAN SHEPARD, Chairman,
Norfolk Education Committee,
County Hall,
Marineau Lane, Norwich.

Good taste

From Mr John Putnam

Sir, I have taken off a full super of honey before the end of April and before the apple blossom is fully out. This is a record for me in twenty-five years of bee-keeping, but I'm sure I'm not alone in this wonderfully warm dry spring.

Yours truly,
JOHN PUTNAM,
Wood Farm,
Blackdown,
Totnes, Devon.

Education in sciences and higher

great figure.
In 1968
chairman of
governors of
of Economists.

destructive kind developed in the fear of the school for a while even to the point of the School. Robbins was a central figure in the School through that time into the present position of the school.

His work, however, was not devoted solely to the Economics Department. He was influential in developing the University of London's philosophy of science and, more generally, in the expansion of the social sciences.

London School of Economics he took a leading part in the appeal to raise a fund for a new library to replace and extend the Bodley Library of Economics and Political Science. That he should add to his list of books the London

In 1959, Dr. Smith was honored by the American Association of University Professors as one of the first 100 outstanding professors in the country. In 1961 he was appointed to the chairmanship of the committee on Higher Education. This

Robbins himself had not been expected to espouse the cause of expansion with such

vigour. But he was impressed by the findings of the committee and the views of his colleagues on it, and became a convinced advocate of the Report's recommendations. It was with deep regret and some anger that he suspended re: the Thatcher

Mona Robbins had a great love and interest in the arts from childhood. At least in his first year at the University of Maryland, Gardiner.

... .. course

Robbins was a member of the White House staff, whose duties included the principal support of the regulated industry. He was up in the White House com-

works of the first that becoming board of Gallery.

...the firm to raise the amount of the loan from the £12,500 to £15,000. His skill and experience were essential factors in the successful launch of the lengthy new-

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...the amalgamation of British United Airways and Caledonian Airways to form the present British Caledonian Airways.

Noble was made a Life Peer in 1974 after retiring from the Commons. He took up a number of appointments in industry and was a director of John Brown Engineering Ltd. He married in 1940, Anne, daughter of Sir Neville Pearson.

DR D. PETTOELLO
Dr Decio Pettoello died in
Cambridge on April 19 at the
age of 87. He came to Britain

from Italy in 1922 to teach in the University of Cambridge, where he held a Lectureship in Italian from 1933 until his retirement in 1951.

He wrote *An Outline of Italian Civilization* (1932), and

after his retirement translated several English classical works into Italian, a verse translation of *Paradise Lost* being the most remarkable.

Seeking a strategy to safeguard research

despite enormous interest in the scheme, there seems to be no means of providing money to ensure the venture continues.

The difficulty lies in the fact that the work is interdisciplinary, neither wholly medicine nor physics. In a time of spending cuts, each discipline feels that the other should pay for the research.

This intriguing machine uses a tightly focused beam of energetic protons to induce a specimen to emit X-rays, and the pattern of X-rays reveals the distribution of elements.

the distribution of events within the sample. Visiting from as far afield as Cambridge have gone to Oxford to learn about the microprobe.

DR D. PETTOELLO
Dr Decio Pettoello died in Cambridge on April 19 at the age of 87. He came to Britain

His liberal views in politics naturally led to fierce opposition to Fascism, and the open

house he and his wife Annunietta kept in Harvey Road became a meeting place for the most prominent Italian political exiles in this country.

after his retirement translated several English classical works into Italian, a verse translation of *Paradise Lost* being the most remarkable.

not and their four children. remarkable.

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To maintain silence about the 505 GTI's other refinements, however, just wouldn't be possible.

Deep, upholstered velour seats, with genuine room for 5 adults (and their legs).

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To some, this may prove decisive.

To the more discerning, that it's a Peugeot is enough.



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\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 14. Dealings End, June 1. \$ Contango Day, June 4. Settlement Day, June 11.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Thirty days that may shake the Continental

The \$4.5 billion safety net organized by American's 16 biggest banks has now provided a 30-day breathing space for troubled Continental Illinois, the big Chicago bank. It has already had to draw heavily on the facility to make up for lost deposits and the bank is not out of the wood yet.

The syndicate of banks providing the facility was drawn to by mutual self-interest. It is anxious to safeguard the credibility of the US banking system and avoid the potentially catastrophic knock-on effects in money markets which would result from the failure of one of the biggest American wholesale banks. At the moment, however, there is no provision for the facility to be renewed.

According to one senior New York banker involved in the safety operation, there are three possible outcomes. The first, with a happy ending, is that Continental rebuilds confidence within the 30 days and then resumes business as normal. Failing that, a merger might be arranged, or thirdly, a longer-term facility would be put in place involving the participation of the US banking regulatory authorities.

The various options are being discussed by bankers and officials and we will probably know the answer before the middle of next month. For Continental, it must be touch and go whether it can survive as an independent bank. Confidence is an elusive quality, as recent events in Chicago have again proved.

Prior to last week's spate of rumours, Continental was a bank which had suffered from numerous difficulties with its loan book and whose standing in the markets was not of the highest. However, the big problems had been identified, the bank was adequately capitalized and there was no reason to believe it would not eventually come through its difficulties.

Once confidence began to crumble, Continental found itself facing severe liquidity problems. Deposits, largely wholesale in this case, but the lifeblood of the bank nevertheless, began to disappear. It is one of the ironies of banking that there was no apparent reason for the sudden flight of faith in the bank beyond self-fulfilling rumours.

US tries to take debt off agenda

The apparently steady progress of international sherpas towards a harmonious and uncontroversial economic summit in London next month has been abruptly impeded by the debt issue, brought back from the shadows by the recent about-turn in American interest rates, and highlighted by Continental Illinois' difficulties.

State Department sources made it clear in Washington yesterday that the Reagan Administration will resist strongly the decision taken by European finance ministers at Rambouillet, at the weekend, to insist on putting the second-round debt problems of debt problems of developing countries firmly on the summit agenda.

At next week's final preparatory session, the US will make it clear that it remains wholly opposed to structured longer-term solutions that would replace its current, case-by-case approach. Indeed, it will try to break the momentum for new approaches by keeping specific proposals off the summit agenda and, in the words of State Department officials "putting the word out" that US wants harmony on this issue.

The Americans, it must be said, will come to the meeting fresh from wringing a package of concessions from Japan to open up Japanese capital markets (see report at the bottom of the page) in

exchange for an agreed moderate US Japanese position on visible trade issues.

They will press for a strong statement condemning the spread of protectionism and laying the groundwork for a new round of multilateral negotiations to liberalize trade. This will embarrass the Europeans who take a similar position on trade to the Americans' or debt.

The real bugbear for Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, is the idea of putting a ceiling on interest rates for loans to Latin American and Third World countries, as floated at the recent central bankers' meeting in New York.

The Americans may yet succeed in reducing the summit discussions of debt to meaningless generalization. While Brazil, with support from Argentina and other South American countries, will continue to put on propaganda pressure for a new solution in the wake of domestic riots, its Rabouillet position is decidedly weak. While the Europeans want to push debt to centre stage (and with Mrs Thatcher drawing up the final agenda may succeed in doing so) they have reached no agreement on how interest-rate capping might work. Governments are against subsidies, while bankers reject continuous capitalization of debt as interest rates rise.

Capital reminder for the London market

If participants in the debate over the future structure of the Stock Exchange needed proof of London's relative weakness and great opportunities as an equity stock market, they need look no further than the latest analysis of world stock markets by the Geneva-based Capital International.

It shows that the New York and Tokyo equity share markets are in a class of their own both in terms of size and just as important, the spread of investments to sustain trading.

In dollar terms, the total market capitalization of the Tokyo big board at around \$600 billion is a long way behind New York's \$1,500 billion. There is a similar proportionate gap before we come to London at \$230 billion. Canada is about half that size and there are further big falls to Germany and Australia (\$80 billion).

These figures graphically demonstrate London's preeminence in European share trading, another case of London's position as a financial centre in Europe being wholly out of step with Britain's relative economic strength.

Measures of market concentration, however, are not so comforting. Capital International compares the proportion of the top 10 quoted companies in total share values in each market (excluding foreign securities and investment trusts). Again, the US and Japan offer much greater trading in depth with the top 10 shares accounting for 16 and 17 per cent of London, however, sinks on this measure into a gaggle of second class markets.

The recent growing influence of American-sourced purchases of British stocks through American depository receipts, which effectively push secondary trading out of London, has already pointed up the vulnerability of the London equity market, whether or not US securities firms are allowed a place in Throgmorton Street.

The corresponding opportunity for London, enhanced by European securities and accounting harmonization, surely lies in taking much stronger positions in the many leading continental shares, which are of international interest, but which dominate and stifle their own local markets. If London does not effectively attempt a European takeover, then US securities firms may eventually do so.

City rebels too late to stop main changes, says minister

By Wayne Lintott and Jeremy Warner

Rebels fighting the changes taking place in the Stock Exchange may be too late with their objections. Mr Alex Fletcher, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday that the City had reached the "crucial" period for determining the systems under which it is to trade in the future.

In a speech to a City University Business School conference, Mr Fletcher, who is responsible for corporate and consumer affairs, said: "The City is responding to the competition posed by other world financial centres. Some people have expressed concern at the speed of the changes now taking place. I would be more concerned if the will to change was not so much in evidence. The City is facing international competition realistically."

The Government itself, he said, is under pressure of time. A Financial Services Act passed in 1986 at the latest, given that there could well be an election the following year. For that to take place, a White Paper will have to be published this autumn, at the latest, and instructions issued by next

January, as *The Times* has already forewarned.

"The City will have to face regulation under either a Labour or Conservative government," he said, adding that he passionately favoured a system of self regulation against a regulatory body, like the American Securities and Exchange Commission, advocated by members of the Labour Party.

"Now is the time for the market to shape itself," he said. The Department of Trade and Industry had so far received more than 100 responses to Professor Laurence Gower's report on regulatory systems. Many eminent City figures were supporting a statutory regulatory body, he said.

"The Government has no blueprint or formula for what should be taking place but we are concerned about investor protection."

He felt that under Professor Gower's recommendations, there could be as many as 14 self-regulatory agencies (SRAs) but he favoured a number significantly lower than that.

The minister said later that he would like to see just four



Alex Fletcher: White paper needed this autumn.

than create a large number of professional regulators. "It is not only the City that will face the winds of competition. The Government will extend its competitive framework throughout the realms of Britain's professions", he said.

More than 70 representatives from 42 or the smaller London stockbroking firms were expected to attend last night's meeting in the City to coordinate opposition to the recent discussion document on the Stock Exchange's future.

Most representatives were voicing opposition to various aspects of the document but six observers from the larger stockbroking firms and a representative from one of the large jobbing firms, were also due to attend.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, celebrating his fiftieth birthday yesterday, was to address the meeting and field questions. Mr Jeremy Lewis, a partner of Seymour Pierce, said last night that a steering committee would be set up to oversee the revolt among the smaller firms and that a list of nominations to the committee would be published today.

Heineken's advertising agency to go public

By Jonathan Clare

The advertising agency which made its name with Heineken lager is about to refresh the parts of the stock market that other companies have yet to reach.

Low Howard-Spink Campbell-Ewald plans to have a full quote on the London stock market next month and is likely to be the second largest quoted advertising agency after Saatchi & Saatchi. The expected market value is likely to be between £20m to £25m.

An unnamed overseas investor who provided finance to start the business wants to realize his investment and he is expected to provide up to 10 per cent of the shares.

The rest will come from Interpublic, the world's largest advertising agency, which has a big stake and the directors. The public will probably be given the chance to buy about 30 per cent of the shares.

Audited profits figures for the last three months are still being worked on but the profits record will be difficult to interpret anyway. Low Howard-Spink was formed in 1981. Last September it merged with Campbell-Ewald, part of Marshall Campbell which is Interpublic's British arm.

The profit record is said to be "not bad and getting better", while there has been a steady increase in billings to £53m last year.

Valin Pollen International, the advertising agency which joined the United Securities Market in January, has turned in first-half profits up by more than 130 per cent.

The directors say they are confident that the forecast full-year turnover of £14m and profits of £425,000 will be exceeded. Yesterday's interim figures show profits up from £118,000 to £280,000 on turnover down from £3.6m to £2.7m. New clients include Reuters, Canon Europa, BAT Industries and Royal Insurance.

Lonrho accused of 'cashless takeover'

By William Kay, City Editor

Professor Roland Smith, chairman of the House of Fraser department store group, hit out last night at a plan by Lonrho to win a majority of directors on the Fraser Board.

He said: "This is a takeover of House of Fraser without using money. They are trying the first cashless takeover in Britain. It is a shrewd Lonrho manoeuvre to gain control of House of Fraser."

Professor Smith was referring to a series of resolutions for the appointment of 12 additional directors at the House of Fraser annual meeting on June 30. They have been requisitioned by Lonrho, which holds 29.9 per cent of the shares in the retail group.

Half the candidates are Lonrho directors or executives. They are Mr Edward de Cann MP, Mr Robert Dunlop, Mr Terry Robinson, Mr Paul Spicer, Mr Robert Whitten and Mr Alan Ball.

The other six are Mr Ronald Aitken, a former senior partner of the accountants Brier Hamlyn; Mr George Copus of Standard Chartered Bank; Miss D'Avo Jennifer of the Ryman retail chain; Mr Alexander "Sandy" Gilmour, former senior partner of the stockbrokers Carr-Saunders; Lord Roger Manners of Strauss Turnbull, the stockbroking firm; and Sir Hugh Fraser, whose father founded House of

Fraser. Sir Hugh was previously a major shareholder in House of Fraser in his own right, but most of his holding has been transferred to Lonrho.

Lonrho currently has two nominees on the Fraser board: Mr Tony Rowland and Lord Duncan-Sandys. Mr Rowland is up for reelection.

Spicer explained yesterday that the purpose of the resolutions was to force through the plan to demerge Harrods from House of Fraser. Shareholders passed a motion to that effect last year, but the present Fraser board decided against it. "The purpose is to ensure that the demerger issue is fairly put to shareholders, thus settling one way or the other the present differences", according to a Lonrho statement. It stressed that the intention was "not to alter permanently" the composition of the board, or to increase or consolidate Lonrho's position in the House of Fraser.

A reconstruction would follow "when the issue of demerger has been resolved", Lonrho said. But if Lonrho had a majority of the board by then, it would also be in a strong position to influence that reconstruction.

Professor Smith insisted last night: "The demerger proposals were thoroughly discussed by the board last year."

Group seeks support at Chloride

By Andrew Cornelius

More than 12,000 Chloride shareholders will be asked today to join the action group established last year to force the company to resume dividend payments and allow shareholders a greater say in the running of its affairs.

Dr Maurice Gillibrand, a former research director of Chloride, the acting chairman of the small group of rebel shareholders, hopes to boost membership of the group by appealing for support from other Chloride shareholders.

Each shareholder will receive a 13-page document spelling out the aims and constitution of the group. In a few weeks they will be invited to a series of meetings in London, Birmingham and Manchester to discuss strategy and put the group on a more formal footing.

Dr Gillibrand has been an ardent critic of Chloride's policies for several years. He said: "We are very dissatisfied with the company's performance. This may be because shareholders have not been vigilant enough in criticizing the board's policies."

Chloride, which is chaired by Sir Michael Edwards, reported its first pre-tax profits since 1978 in the half year to September 30, 1983, but has not paid a dividend for three years.

Earnings growing

The growth in earnings is showing no sign of slackening, according to official figures published yesterday, and it is still running comfortably above the increase in prices.

The Department of Employment said that average earnings increased at an underlying rate of 7.75 per cent in the year to March, the eighth successive month at this level. This compared with an inflation rate of 5.2 per cent in March, which is set to fall - possibly to under 5 per cent - when the April inflation figures are announced on Friday.

The earnings index, seasonally adjusted, showed a 12-month rise of 5.4 per cent.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1104.5 up 9.3 (high 1104.5; low 1101.2)
FT Index: 874.4 up 0.14
FT Gilt: 79.87 up 0.18
Bargains: 23.482
Oatstream USM Leaders Index: 116.01 up 0.34
New York Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1152.27 up 0.24
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,619.85 up 15.31
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index: 948.32 up 25.25
Amsterdam 177.7 up 0.2
Sydney AO Index 780.3 up 0.3
Frankfurt Commerzbank Index: 1015.3 up 11.2
Brussels General Index 152.23 down 1.20
Paris CAC Index 177.2 up 1.2
Zurich SBA General 312.7 up 0.3

CURRENCIES

STERLING
Sterling 51.3845 up 70pts
Index 80.0 up 0.1
DM 3.8275 up 0.01
FF 1.7425 up 0.0025
Yen 322.50 up 0.50
Dollar
Index 131.0 down 0.5
DM 2.7445 down 0.0055
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling 51.3825
Dollar DM 2.7455
EURO 50.587171
SOR 50.750206

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9.9%
Finance houses base rate 9%
Discount market rates week fixed 7%
3 month interbank 9%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11%, 11%
3 month DM 6%, 5%
3 month FF 12%, 12%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.50
Fed funds 10
Treasury long bond 9%
ECG Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 4, 1984 to May 1, 1984, inclusive: 8.934 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$374.80
close \$375.25-375.75 (£269.269.50)
New York (latest): \$375.25
Krugerrand (per coin): \$386.25-387.75 (£277.278)
Sovereigns (navi): \$68.89 (£56.64)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

BAe merger backed by Lamont

The Government would not impede the proposed merger of British Aerospace and Thorn-EMI, Mr Norman Lamont, the Industry Minister, told MPs yesterday.

But the Government would demand a guarantee that BAC's role in the Airbus project would continue, and a pledge that the company would not pass into foreign control.

The merger, he said, would have to be considered for referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission by Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Parliamentary report, page 4

● **COMMERCIAL UNION** assurance yesterday reported pre-tax losses of £8.4m for the first quarter of the year compared with pre-tax profits of £14m at the same stage last year. Group underwriting losses increased from £66m to £84m, while group premium income fell by £10 to £59.8m.

Temps, page 18
● **NSS NEWSAGENTS** saw pre-tax profits drop from £3.4m to £3m in the half year to April 1. Turnover increased to £77.2m from £76.5m. The interim dividend of 1.2p is up from 1.1p last time.

Temps, page 18
● **LEGAL & GENERAL's** annual meeting was told that the storms this year would have a significant effect on profit figures. The cost of "exceptional" household claims is likely to be about £6m.

OECD warning on rising US rates

From Frances Williams, Paris

The organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is painting a brighter picture of economic prospects for the industrial countries this year and next, but has given a warning that rising American interest rates threaten the durability of recovery in the longer term.

The new OECD forecasts, to be given to ministers from the 24 member nations for their

two-day meeting which begins today in Paris, suggest the industrial world as a whole may grow by 4 per cent this year, slowing to about 3 per cent next year as the United States economy loses momentum.

But Europe is expected to expand by only 2 per cent this year, which is not enough to prevent unemployment rising further. This is better, however, than the 1.5 per cent predicted

by the OECD last December, which compared with 3.5 per cent for the industrial countries.

The unpublished forecasts also show that the OECD expects Britain to grow faster than the European average this year. It has revised up slightly its 2.5 per cent growth forecast made in December, but remains more cautious than the British Government which is predicting 3 per cent growth this year.

Yen markets expected to open up

Tokyo on verge of reform

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

A series of measures designed to meet United States demands for the liberalization of Japanese financial markets is expected to be announced by Mr Nakasone's Government on Monday. The list of reforms is expected to be extensive enough to persuade the Reagan Administration to cease its obstruction of a new financial settlement at the World Bank. The US has been blocking Japan's promotion to second place on the ladder of national authority at the World Bank in order to force it to accelerate financial liberalization. This has been the main issue between the Japanese and American Governments in the run-up to the London summit, and a ceasefire between the two on financial issues will lead to agreement on almost all trade issues between the governments of the two most powerful summit economies.

The main elements in the package are expected to be:

● Firm proposals by Japan for the creation of a bankers' acceptance market in Tokyo;

● The relaxation of some restrictions on Euroyen issues by non-residents;

● Permission for the issue of yen-denominated Certificates of Deposit in London;

● A further reduction in the minimum scale of Certificates of Deposits, from 500 million yen to 100 million.

Most or all of these measures are expected to take effect from next year at the earliest. Other measures indicated by Japan to take effect from next year include an increase in the limit on the total amount of yen-denominated Certificates of Deposits issued by banks, to take effect from the second quarter of 1985.

The US has been pressing for financial liberalization because

it believes that restrictions on capital inflows are artificially depressing the yen, making Japanese goods super-competitive in world markets. It has demanded change in three areas: the development of a Euroyen market, the decontrol of interest rates in Japan, to enable foreign banks to compete more effectively, and an opening up of the monopoly of certain types of business enjoyed by the Japanese trust banks.

The American Government's fundamental complaint is that the absence of a proper short-term financial market in Japan deprives international financiers of suitable yen instruments and therefore helps to keep the yen down. They point out that while the American banking sector is roughly two and a half times the size of the Japanese equivalent, the American short-term market is roughly 10 times the size of that in Japan.

Profits up 40% to £159m

	1983/4 £m	1982/3 £m	% Change
Turnover	1,846.0	1,597.0	+15.6
Trading profits after interest	155.9	111.0	+40.4
Group profits before tax	159.1	113.5	+40.2
Dividends	33.6	25.1	+33.9
Earnings per share	7.1p	5.0p	+42.0

Footwear retailers ● departmental stores, jewellery and other retailing ● motor vehicle sales, service and delivery ● licensed betting offices ● property development and investment ● engineering.



Copies of the 1983/84 Annual Report will be available from 1st June 1984 and may be obtained from The Secretary, Sears Holdings plc, 40 Ouke Street, London W1A 2HP.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

De Vere rises amid bid talk

By Michael Clark

De Vere Hotels and Restaurants rose 7p to 320p yesterday - just 8p short of the high - amid speculation that the mysterious predator who has been in talks with the group will announce his terms today.

At this level De Vere, which owns Connaught Rooms and the Mirabelle Club, in London, is valued at £44.5m. Last month Mr Leopold Muller, De Vere's chairman, aged 81, announced that there had been approaches but gave warning that all the bids received were way below the present share price.

Mr Muller controls over 51 per cent of the shares and is known to be a willing seller after an unsuccessful bid last year by Selfpost, a private company controlled by Mr Gerald Holland, was prepared to bid 340p a share for Mr Muller's stake and then offer a similar amount to other De Vere shareholders. However, the deal went wrong after Mr Muller failed to raise the necessary cash. Following the recent share split the bid would be worth around 280p at today's levels. Last night Mr Muller and the rest of his board were not available for comment.

In 1983 De Vere's pretax profits rose from £1m to £1.83m on turnover £1.83m higher at £22m.

Bid talk was the main theme elsewhere in the market after Tuesday's news that Thorn EMI and British Aerospace were considering merging. Thorn lost another 18p to 564p on further reflection of the deal, while British Aerospace improved another 16p to 338p. Market watchers are taking the view that the deal could be bad for Thorn.

Elsewhere, the equity market showed signs of running out of

steam after this week's technical rally. The FT Index, which had been unchanged for most of the day, closed 1.4 up at 879.4, while the FT-SE 10 rose 9.9 to 1104.5.

Leaders showed selective support after hours as Wall Street opened firmer with Bechtel 4p dearer at 325p, Blue Circle 8p at 423p, BOC Group 3p at 278p, Glaxo 15p at 840p, ICI 4p at 598p, Peninsular and Oriental 3p at 314p and Trusthouse Forte 4p at 123p and T1 Group 4p at 254p. Hanson Trust was another firm market awaiting the outcome of the seminar in New York.

Little Pict Petroleum, the North Sea exploration group, spurred 7p to 163p yesterday on hopes that it has again struck it rich. The group's operator, Monsano, recently announced a new find on block 15/21 and close observers say that a new appraisal well in the same block has again come up trumps. Dealers are also excited by the suggestion that Pict is about to exchange half of its interest in block 15/21 for a 15 per cent stake in block 99 in the English Channel.

between the company and US investors. The shares closed 7p dearer at 231p.

The increased fighting in the Middle East and the rising cost of crude oil on the Rotterdam spot market produced another flurry of activity in oils. BP led the way with a 15p rise to 511p, followed by Shell, 15p to 665p, Tricentral 4p to 220p, Ultramar 7p to 629p, Lasso 12p to 318p, British 11p to 255p, Carless Capel 7p to 240p, and Imperial Continental Gas 9p to 305p. Only Burmah failed to make

headway, losing an early lead to close unchanged at 179p. Griferson Grant, the broker, reckons recent pretax profits proved misleading, and is looking for another healthy increase in operating income in the present year.

The continued rally on the US bond market and the improvement in the pound's fortunes against the dollar. The Government Broker also encouraged the buyers by reducing the price of his latest top Treasury 9½ per cent Convertible 1989.

He is reckoned to have sold around £400m at the new price of £47½ partly paid. At the longer end of the market, prices rose by up to ½, but in shorts earlier gains of ¾ had been reduced to ¼ by the close. The FT Government Securities Index rose 0.18 to 79.97.

Lyle Shipping fell 1p to 78p after news that its accounts had been heavily qualified. Arthur Young McClelland, the auditor, says in its report that negotiations with the group's bankers are in progress to secure facilities to enable further payments to be made for ships the group is having built in Japan. In the absence of these ships it is uncertain that the group can continue to trade as a going concern. A spokesman for Lyle said he was confident the funds would be made available.

Waring & Gillow jumped 39p to 148p after the directors announced that a certain company might be interested in making a bid. The statement was made because of the recent increases in the company's share prices over the past few days. Great Universal Stores, which owns 30 per cent of Waring, denied it was making

the bid. Mr Philip Harris, of Harris Queensway, is the market's favourite to make such a move, but he went out of his way to deny the rumours yesterday.

Francis Industries held steady at 126p after the Takeover Panel announced it had found no evidence to indicate any breach of the Takeover Code in certain dealings in Francis Industries following the bid from Mr David Abell's Suter. The inquiry was requested by Francis's financial adviser, Lazard Bros. Suter closed 6p lower at 116p.

Kennedy Brookes, the Marin & Franco and Wheelers, res- It looks as though the long-awaited recovery at the international trader Incheape may be on the way. Full year figures this month are expected to signal a bottoming out in the group's fortunes with analysts looking for £50m in £55m pretax against £71m last time. Dealers reckon the shares could soon be due for a re-rating. Yesterday they rose 12p to 363p - just shy of the year's high.

Restaurant chain, has been buying more shares in Leisuretime International, which used to trade under the name of Old Swan Hotels (Harrogate). The group has bought a further 30,000 shares in Leisuretime and now owns a total of 672,000. The news failed to impress Leisuretime, unchanged at 64p, but Kennedy Brookes added 2p to 265p.

Equity turnover on May 15 was £237,963m (18,003 bargains). The number of British and Irish stocks traded was 145, 1m. Gilt bargains totalled 3,178.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling which was more than a cent ahead against the dollar in early trading yesterday lost some of this advantage at the end.

The dollar which had followed the lower trend of Euro deposit rates met renewed profit-taking, but recovered during the mid-session when the latest higher US housing starts figures further emphasised the strength of the American economy. US bond rates which opened higher slipped back later and these two factors induced a moderate rally by the dollar.

The pound ended the session 70 points up at 1.3945 while its trade-weighted index after 80.2 at noon closed at 80. But it was still up against the previous night's 79.9.

In Deutsche mark terms the pound was below its best at 3.8230 (3.8140).

The yen, worried about the air attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf, slipped back at 231.25 (231.20) against the dollar.

MONEY MARKETS

The fact that there were ready buyers for the tap once the Government Broker had lowered his price for the stock, encouraged money market operators to take a slightly more relaxed view of base-rate prospects to the short-term.

In the longer term, however, the market remains nervous.

The discount market may well now be happy to pay for money and run its bills, therefore bringing to an end the cheap-money phase that has existed since last week's base rate rises.

Interbank, overnight money fell to about 6 per cent in the early stages, firmed to about 7 per cent at mid-session, and then shot up to 20-30 per cent in late trading, before finishing in the region of 20 per cent.

TEMPUS

Market relief as CU trims American loss

There was evident relief in the market yesterday when Commercial Union published its first quarter results. The City has become used to the sting in the tail from CU in recent results announcements, but for once the results were broadly in line with expectations.

The market was also impressed by the slight reduction in underwriting losses in the US. These fell from a loss of £46.2m to a loss of £42.4m compared with the same period last year.

These two encouraging signs, coupled with an indication that the long-awaited rate increases on commercial lines in the US are at last beginning to show through, were enough to lift CU's share price by 9p to 217p.

Yet, despite the renewed enthusiasm for CU shares there is little reason to expect any dramatic upturn in the group's trading fortunes. First quarter figures always tend to be a poor indicator of the ultimate results for the year. CU's first quarter loss of £8.4m against last year's £14m pretax profit stemmed largely from £12m of weather losses in Britain and in a further £7m of British fire claims.

These factors contributed to increased group underwriting losses of £84m against £66m last time. That may not be enough to stem the tide of losses in the US. CU is unlikely to benefit before next year from a hardening of rates by leaders in the American market, such as Sigma. This begs the question: what is CU planning to do with its US business?

CU, like the other British composites, is also concerned about the changing pattern of world weather, which has led to two years of unprecedented losses in the US and at home. An industry-wide initiative may be necessary to determine whether freezing conditions in Florida and hurricane force storms in Britain are merely a temporary phenomenon or part of a new weather pattern. Longer term there is much more room for optimism. And CU's board is sticking by its promise to maintain the

dividend unless it encounters "exceptional and unforeseen" circumstances. So far CU's share price has not encountered such circumstances.

NSS Newsagents

If independent newsagents were viewed in a similar way to wild animals they would no doubt now be regarded as an endangered species. The recent bid by W. H. Smith for Martin's Newsagents, comes after several takeovers which have seen several of the independent chains, swallowed by much larger producers.

NSS Newsagents, with more than 500 outlets, is of a similar size to Martin, and like Martin concentrates on the traditional but still profitable confectionery, tobacco and newspaper market. NSS is well aware that its name could be the next to be added to an unenviable hunter's shopping list.

If open season is to be declared on NSS, however, the shots are unlikely to be fired by the likes of W. H. Smith. The mover for Martin was its pricing, not least because it withdrew rapidly from much of the GTN market some time ago. Other potential bidders could be the cigarette companies keen to protect a market which has suffered at the hands of both the Chancellor and the health lobby. Previous buyers by the tobacco giants in this direction have not been a great success.

The main problem for a chain like NSS is its concentration on GTN. While the market remains profitable, it shows little sign of growth. Prices for confectionery and newspapers have remained stable, and tobacco prices, ignoring the Budget, have in some cases fallen. Volumes however, have not improved, and NSS's pretax profits fell in the first six months mainly because of the late Easter.

The company has some new ideas in the pipeline away from the mainstream GTN, which it is hoped will contribute to growth. NSS is returning over 20 per cent on its capital employed, and if it could back this with genuine growth it could make some real progress. The share price was up 2p at 84p.

Gilt

Do not be surprised if Akroyd makes some staggered prices this morning. Buckmaster & Moore says it will allow the market to play for a while last night in the Stock Exchange's first final.

Yesterday's manoeuvres by the Government Broker provided a pleasant surprise to the City. No one could work out for sure whether he had left the bull, or missed the Board altogether, by slashing the share price.

After aggressive trading late on Tuesday in Treasury 9½ per cent Convertible 1989 at 47½, some 2½ points below the same price, the market opened for the day early yesterday, and the Government Broker duly supplied stock at 47½. But he was both on and off at that price, implying that his next price would be 47½.

It is perhaps only the second time in living memory that the Government Broker has failed to open on a high after cutting his price. With the same process, falling into banking time, some claim that he has misjudged the market, saddling himself with an unsalable up-to-bid.

Other more sanguine souls, however, suggest that his steady operations are connected with the wall of cash due to fall on the market next week. A nominal £2.7m of Exchange Securities 1984 is redeemed, and £800m of dividends cascade into the market's hands. Perhaps he is right to be bullish.

But the Bank of England's money market operations rather contradicted the Government Broker's stance. By leaving some of the shortage in the market, overnight rates were driven up to 15 per cent at one point. America was also unhelpful. Tuesday's bond market rally reversed.

Hence the uneasy finish to the market, with shorts and longer shading gains.

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COMMERCIAL UNION

1st Quarter results
Appear on
Page 3

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	10.25%
BCCI	9.75%
Citibank Savings	9.75%
Consolidated Crd.	9.75%
Confidential Trust	9%
G. Hoare & Co.	9%
Lloyds Bank	9.75%
Middle East Bank	9.75%
Nat Westminster	9%
PSB	9%
Williams & Glyn	9.75%
Gilbert NA	9.75%

Scottish Life Investments

INSURANCE FUNDS

Net Managed	884	Offe
Property	77.4	102.2
UK Equity	96.7	101.4
US Equity	100.4	105.7
European	101.4	104.9
Pacific	96.5	101.9
International	96.5	104.9
Fixed Interest	93.3	98.3
Index Linked	98.2	103.5
Deposit	99.9	101.0
Gross	884	Offe
Net Managed	88.1	103.4
Property	87.2	102.4
UK Equity	101.8	107.2
US Equity	102.6	108.2
Pacific	97.4	102.7
European	100.3	105.7
Pan Am	100.0	105.4
Fixed Int	93.4	98.4
Index Link	98.9	104.4
Deposit	96.6	101.2

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PIONEER MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the members of this COMPANY will be held at the RIVINGTONS HOTEL, THE SPURRING, LIVERPOOL, L23 7TA, on FRIDAY, 20 JUNE 1984 at 12.00 noon for the purpose of transacting the following business:

- To receive the Statement of Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st December 1983.
- To elect a Director. The Director retiring by rotation is Mr. G. White who is eligible for re-election.
- To re-appoint Arthur Young McClelland Moore & Co. as Auditors to the Company and to authorise the Directors to determine their remuneration.

DATED 16th May 1984
By order of the Board
D. BLAZARD
Secretary

REGISTERED AND HEAD OFFICE:
Pioneer House,
10 Crosby Road North,
Woodton,
Liverpool, L22 0NY

NOTES:
1. A member entitled to attend and vote may appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy must be a member of the Company.

SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

SUN ALLIANCE AND LONDON INSURANCE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance plc was held yesterday at the Head Office of the Company in Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.2.

Lord Addington, the Chairman, presided and in addressing the Meeting stated:

"We do not publish quarterly figures but I shall follow my usual practice of giving an indication of how we have fared since reporting our Annual Results. I must again stress that the experience of one quarter alone does not provide a reliable guide to the full year's results."

As in 1982, there has been a poor start to the year. At home, our results have been hit badly by the severe weather losses which, after the recovery of reinsurance, are estimated to amount to £225 million, compared with £11 million in 1982. Results from the U.S.A., where there was also exceptional weather and from some other overseas territories show a deterioration and therefore an increased total underwriting loss on our core operations. On the other hand, there are some signs of improvement in our insurance subsidiaries elsewhere.

Despite further satisfactory growth in investment income and life profits were not sufficient to cover the underwriting losses.

I set out the strengths of our business in my Annual Statement. This was an exceptional year.

At the Extraordinary General Meeting which followed, proposals to introduce a Savings Related Share Option Scheme, to divide the shares of £1 each into shares of 25p each and to increase the Company's borrowing powers, were approved.

Dealings in the shares of 25p each will begin on Monday 24th June 1984.

A Vote of Thanks to the Directors and Staff was proposed by Sir Philip Shelbourne.

warfs' to
arks fly

s late win

O'Connor
stays to
defend title

topics
up for
tender

John Andrew
suggested

Brock back in England's six under-21 team changes

Kevin Brock, one of the outstanding figures in Oxford's successes this season, has been given another chance to show off his talent at international level. He is one of six changes in the England team for tonight's European under-21 championship final first leg against Spain in Seville.

The teams
SPAIN (Probable): A Zubizarreta; P Salinas, M Sanchez, M Angel, E Ramos, M Gonzalez, R Fernandez, F Lopez, R Martin, E Batistuta, M Rodriguez.
ENGLAND: P Hucker (C), D Thomas (Sheff Wed), D Thomas (Tottenham), D Watson (Norwich), G Stevens (Tottenham), P Bracewell (Swindon), S Hodge (Nottingham Forest), H Gayle (Birmingham), K Brock (Oxford), M Chamberlain (Stoke), M Hensley (Preston).

Brock made an impressive debut in the first leg of the semi-final against Italy, but was not selected for the return. Club calls and injuries again have deprived England's team manager, Dave Sexton, of several first choice players, but he will have no fears about recalling Brock.

The Queen's Park Rangers goalkeeper Peter Hucker, and the Birmingham forward Howard Gayle, who like Brock

won their first caps in the 3-1 defeat of Italy at Maine Road, also are brought back. Danny Thomas, of Tottenham, a member of the team which won the under-21 championship two years ago, is preferred to Sunderland's Nick Pickering at left back. Hucker wins his second cap as Bailey is involved with Manchester United.

In the absence of the injured Tommy Caton, Thomas's club-mate Gary Stevens will team up with Norwich's Dave Watson in the centre of the defence. The Spurs pair will be hoping they can help England into a winning position because they will not be available for the second leg at Bramall Lane next Thursday. They will be playing for their club in the UEFA Cup final against Anderlecht the previous night.

Although Paul Walsh, of Luton, withdrew from the squad because transfer speculation had affected his form, there were no such problems for Paul Bracewell. He agreed to move from Sunderland to Everton on Tuesday night in a £250,000 deal but maintains his record of playing in every game since the present under-21 championship began in September 1982.

David Bardsley successfully came through his run-in with Watford reserves at Vicarage Road yesterday to strengthen his claim to the right back position for Saturday's FA Cup final against Everton at Wembley.

Bardsley, aged 19, played yesterday at left back while Gibbs, another contender for a Wembley place, was at right back until half-time when he was replaced by Rice, the former Arsenal captain.

Watford won the game 4-0 against Brighton to finish the season as runners-up in the Football Combination - their best performance in the competition.

Les Taylor will know within the next 24 hours whether he is to become Watford's captain against Everton. Taylor will be handed the honour if Bardsley plays. "Being captain at Wembley would be a great honour and a very proud moment," Taylor says.

Taylor hopes the appointment, if it comes, will prove three times lucky. "I've led Watford twice before and both times we were defeated very heavily," he recalled. "We lost to Norwich and 5-1 at Nottingham Forest."

Manchester City yesterday signed a two-year sponsorship deal with the Dutch electrical firm, Philips Appliances, valued at £250,000. City's chairman, Peter Swales, said: "All the money will go to the manager towards strengthening the team in a promotion drive for next season." The main part of the sponsorship involves City wearing the firm's name on their shirts and plans also include them playing at Philips' stadium, which began as Philips Factory Club in the Netherlands before becoming one of the country's top teams.

John Gregory, the versatile Queen's Park Rangers player, is having intensive treatment in a bid to get fit for England's five internationals in the next month. Gregory has a groin strain received in the last match of the season, a 3-1 defeat at Everton.

The Arsenal forward, Tony Woodcock, who has a hamstring strain in his right leg, might struggle to make the match with Scotland at Hampden Park on May 26. Alvin Martin, the West Ham Centre-half, who missed his club's last four matches after hurting his ankle in England's 1-0 defeat by Wales in the last match, but is also in light training.

Cardiff City will not be allowed to stage a World Cup qualifying game in Ninian Park next November unless they can Rugby League is back in the spotlight for the first time in three weeks. The Welsh FA have made this a condition for the match with Iceland on November 14.



Recalled: Brock (left) and Hucker return to face Spaniards in Seville.

Sexton has not yet decided who will take over from Caton as team captain. Forwards Mark Chamberlain (Stoke), who already has two full caps, and the uncapped Mark Hensley (Preston) have the chance to impress the

England manager, Bobby Robson, who has them both pencilled in for the three-match tour of South America. Spain's youngsters, who comfortably ousted Yugoslavia in the semi-final, will be attempting to win their first

European under-21 final and their manager, Luis Suarez, is fielding Real Madrid's prodigy Emilio Butragueno, aged 20, whose shy and retiring manner off the field belies his deft ball skills and deadly goal-scoring ability.

The first job for Tottenham Hotspur's new manager may be to persuade six leading players to stay at White Hart Lane. Glenn Hoddle, Tony Galvin, Mark Falco, Ally Dick, Paul Miller and Gareth Crooks all finish contracts at the end of June and have yet to settle terms on new contracts which have been offered. Their arrangements may not be agreed by the time Keith Burkinshaw steps down as manager at the end of the season.

Paul Price, the centre half recalled to the Wales squad for their recent international against England, has been released. Tottenham, he cost them £250,000 when he came from Luton Town three years ago, but played only five games this season.

On the same night Wrexham gained the points they needed to keep alive their hopes of finishing out of the bottom four of the fourth division with a 1-1 draw at Crewe Alexandra.

Leeds United are giving a free transfer to Kevin Hurd, who cost them £250,000 when they signed him from Blackburn Rovers five years ago. Eamonn O'Keefe, the Republic of Ireland forward, wants to leave Port Vale following their relegation to the fourth division. The former Everton player, who joined Port Vale last year from Wigan for £10,000, still has more than 12 months to go on a two-year contract.

Tom English is not being retained by Leicester City. The 23-year-old forward arrived from Coventry City in 1982 in exchange for Jim McIvor.

Cardiff City's decision to release Trevor Lee and Martin Goldsmith on free transfers means the Welsh club are left without a single forward on their books.

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Appleton is appointed manager at Swansea

Colin Appleton, who resigned as manager of Hull City on Tuesday night after they had failed by one goal to gain promotion at Burnley, has been appointed manager of Swansea City, themselves relegated to the third division this season.

Appleton, aged 46, had talks with Doug Sharpe, the Swansea chairman, over the weekend and took up his new post yesterday lunchtime. He has signed a two-year contract.

Best remembered as a wing half for Leicester City, and a former manager of non-league Scarborough, Appleton nearly joined Swansea after John Toshack resigned shortly before Christmas. He decided to stay at Hull to try and win promotion to the second division, following his success the previous season in taking the Humber side out of the fourth.

However, Appleton said yesterday: "Going up would not have made any difference to my decision. I had already made up my mind to leave, but because of the importance of the match at Burnley I obviously could not say anything sooner."

Appleton, who joined Hull two years ago when they were in deep financial trouble, has worked at Boothferry Park this season knowing there would be no money to spend on players, but he was determined the club achieved promotion. He walks into a similar situation at the Vetch Field, with exactly the same boardroom message as a greeting.

"I am quite aware of Swansea's circumstances," he said yesterday. "It is a situation I am very familiar with. But from my career point of view the time was right for a move. During the last seven days, Swansea have convinced me that this is the place to be."

Appleton will watch his new players in action for the first time in a practice game today, before the club's retained list is announced. Hull's failure on Tuesday to score the three-goal victory they needed to clinch promotion means that both Sheffield clubs will be playing a higher grade of League football next season.

Sheffield United supporters were put through an agonising last 23 minutes at Turf Moor after Brian Marwood had given Hull a 2-0 lead. But despite identical goal differences, United slipped Hull to promotion by virtue of having scored more goals. They return to the second division after an absence of five years, while Sheffield Wednesday are back in the first division after 14 years.

At the other end of the third division, there was more on Tuesday night when Scornborough United lost to a win by seven goals remained anchored in the realms of fantasy - they went down by three goals at Rotherham United.

On the same night Wrexham gained the points they needed to keep alive their hopes of finishing out of the bottom four of the fourth division with a 1-1 draw at Crewe Alexandra.

Leeds United are giving a free transfer to Kevin Hurd, who cost them £250,000 when they signed him from Blackburn Rovers five years ago. Eamonn O'Keefe, the Republic of Ireland forward, wants to leave Port Vale following their relegation to the fourth division. The former Everton player, who joined Port Vale last year from Wigan for £10,000, still has more than 12 months to go on a two-year contract.

Tom English is not being retained by Leicester City. The 23-year-old forward arrived from Coventry City in 1982 in exchange for Jim McIvor.

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Jones to warm up against American

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Colin Jones, who is to have been Sugar Ray Leonard's next opponent had the former double world champion out retired last week for good and all, is pressing hard for a third tilt at Milton McCrory's world welterweight title. Jones, as the world No. 1 contender, can rightly expect McCrory to sign on the dotted line soon, especially as the American has had two voluntary defences. Jones has already settled on an opponent for a warm-up bout. He will meet Billy Parks of Denver at the Aliso Lido, Alhambra, on June 13.

Jones's manager, Eddie Thomas, said yesterday: "We had an agreement that Colin would be Leonard's next opponent, but it would not have been for the one million I have seen reported, but it would not have been far off that figure. Colin can do a six-figure sum when he meets McCrory."

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Bardsley proves his fitness for Wembley

David Bardsley successfully came through his run-in with Watford reserves at Vicarage Road yesterday to strengthen his claim to the right back position for Saturday's FA Cup final against Everton at Wembley.

Bardsley, aged 19, played yesterday at left back while Gibbs, another contender for a Wembley place, was at right back until half-time when he was replaced by Rice, the former Arsenal captain.

Watford won the game 4-0 against Brighton to finish the season as runners-up in the Football Combination - their best performance in the competition.

Les Taylor will know within the next 24 hours whether he is to become Watford's captain against Everton. Taylor will be handed the honour if Bardsley plays. "Being captain at Wembley would be a great honour and a very proud moment," Taylor says.

Taylor hopes the appointment, if it comes, will prove three times lucky. "I've led Watford twice before and both times we were defeated very heavily," he recalled. "We lost to Norwich and 5-1 at Nottingham Forest."

Manchester City yesterday signed a two-year sponsorship deal with the Dutch electrical firm, Philips Appliances, valued at £250,000. City's chairman, Peter Swales, said: "All the money will go to the manager towards strengthening the team in a promotion drive for next season." The main part of the sponsorship involves City wearing the firm's name on their shirts and plans also include them playing at Philips' stadium, which began as Philips Factory Club in the Netherlands before becoming one of the country's top teams.

John Gregory, the versatile Queen's Park Rangers player, is having intensive treatment in a bid to get fit for England's five internationals in the next month. Gregory has a groin strain received in the last match of the season, a 3-1 defeat at Everton.

The Arsenal forward, Tony Woodcock, who has a hamstring strain in his right leg, might struggle to make the match with Scotland at Hampden Park on May 26. Alvin Martin, the West Ham Centre-half, who missed his club's last four matches after hurting his ankle in England's 1-0 defeat by Wales in the last match, but is also in light training.

Cardiff City will not be allowed to stage a World Cup qualifying game in Ninian Park next November unless they can Rugby League is back in the spotlight for the first time in three weeks. The Welsh FA have made this a condition for the match with Iceland on November 14.

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Statham pulls out of squad

The West Bromwich defender, Derek Statham, whose career has been dogged by injuries, has had to pull out of the England squad for the games against Scotland and Russia, only 24 hours after the squad was announced.

Statham may have a recurrence of the pelvic injury which sidelined him for the first seven months of the season and has been advised to rest after an exploratory operation.

The left back, capped three times, said: "It was the worst possible news I could have had. When I was told I was in the squad I knew I had a good chance of making a claim for a place in the side, but now these hopes have been ruined for the time being."

Throughout his eight-year career at The Hawthorns, Statham has run into one injury crisis after another and has never completed a full season.

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Tottenham keep options open

The first job for Tottenham Hotspur's new manager may be to persuade six leading players to stay at White Hart Lane. Glenn Hoddle, Tony Galvin, Mark Falco, Ally Dick, Paul Miller and Gareth Crooks all finish contracts at the end of June and have yet to settle terms on new contracts which have been offered. Their arrangements may not be agreed by the time Keith Burkinshaw steps down as manager at the end of the season.

Paul Price, the centre half recalled to the Wales squad for their recent international against England, has been released. Tottenham, he cost them £250,000 when he came from Luton Town three years ago, but played only five games this season.

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Title contest doubt

New York (Reuters) - Next month's heavyweight title bout between Larry Holmes and Gerrie Coetzee, Coetzee's next opponent, would not have been for the one million I have seen reported, but it would not have been far off that figure. Colin can do a six-figure sum when he meets McCrory."

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General Appointments

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Student Health Physician

Applications are invited from registered medical practitioners for this full-time post in the school's student health service which we are seeking to fill as soon as possible. The successful applicant will be required to provide general medical care for a National Health Service list of at present approximately 3500 registered students, and some staff and their families and an occupational health service to the school. The physician will be one of a rota of eleven doctors for the purpose of providing full-time night, weekend and holiday cover. An interest in the medical and psychological problems of students and young people is essential. Experience of psychiatry or occupational health and the possession of a family planning certificate would be an advantage.

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Further details and application form available from the personnel officer, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, Aldwych, London, WC2E 4AE.

Closing date for applications 8th June 1984.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA at the LONDON COLISEUM

Following Lord Harewood's decision to retire from the Company in June 1985 the Chairman and Board of English National Opera invite applications for the position of

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Applications giving details of previous experience and qualifications should be addressed to the Chairman (ref. Managing Director), English National Opera, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ES by June 30, 1984.

Applications should be supported by references and fuller details will be despatched to those who may be regarded as eligible.

Applicants must be prepared to live in London or the immediate vicinity. Salary and other details will be by negotiation.

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Further information and application forms from:-

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LOG ANALYST

Duties will involve running computer processed interpretations using a HP-1000 Computer system in our London office.

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A number of excellent opportunities have arisen in a Fortune 100 Computer manufacturing company whose UK subsidiary is located in North West London. Applications are invited from qualified people who are interested in pursuing a career in personnel management.

Qualifications for these positions include 'A' level or higher as well as a secretarial qualification and at least 2 years' experience in a secretarial role, as good typing and shorthand are necessary. Successful applicants will be admitted into the professional salary scale at a level dependent on their academic background and work experience.

It should be understood that these positions are not personnel officer or personnel manager roles. But worthwhile positions for those people who would find challenging a demanding workload of personnel administration.

Applications to:

Lynda Robbins
Personnel Administrator
Tel: 01-881 0222

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TO: Brian Forbes Search and Selection Ltd
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PERSONAL ASSISTANT

An assistant to the Personnel Officer is required by Sovereign Oil & Gas PLC, an expanding oil company situated in modern offices close to Victoria Station.

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Candidates should have some previous experience within the personnel field and be educated to at least 'O' level standard. Good English and an ability to communicate successfully is essential. Shorthand would also be an asset. Training on the Company's word processing system will be provided. Age range 20-30.

Salary will be competitive. Benefits include London Weighting Allowance, Non-contributory Share Scheme, BUPA and Life Insurance. Hours are 9-5 with some overtime work when necessary.

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Marketing & Engineering

Network Systems Semiconductor Components

At Northern Telecom we have created an environment where both people and technology can flourish. And that has helped to take us to international leadership in advanced telecommunications, particularly in the digital switching field where our DMS Family of Digital Switching Systems is enjoying outstanding success around the world. The DMS-100, for instance, was introduced in 1979 with 200 features, by 1983 it had over 1000, and in 1984 it will surpass 1500. To keep pace with demand and to capitalize on market potential we now have opportunities for:

Marketing & Network Engineers

The following opportunities are for university graduates in engineering who ideally have C.Eng. status and three to five years' telephony experience which includes the engineering and provisioning of communications networks. Familiarity with stored program and/or digital switching and transmission employed in large public or private network applications would be an asset. Well-developed communications and presentation skills are essential and for some positions a knowledge of European or Near and Middle Eastern languages would be an asset.

Product Marketing Specialists: to be the prime interface with our customers and be responsible for quotation strategy, preparation and delivery of presentation and assisting customers with network planning prior to submission of proposals. You will also undertake special studies on systems capabilities, feature feasibility and engineering economics as well as contribute to planning, promotion and development of products. Ref. OT3126.

Marketing Engineers: to be the prime technical interface with customers for telecommunication hardware and software. You will consult with customers and work with them to establish specific system requirements and will ensure that the customer fully understands the criteria for the equipment and software configured. You will undertake systems and performance analysis to ensure technical and economic viability and then engineer this data into a working system. You will be responsible for the technical integrity of the system from quotation to in-service operation and you will ensure that internal organizations meet the customer requirements. Ref. OT3127.

Network Systems Engineers: to take a leading role in digital systems planning assignments for a large number of major clients. You will have a responsibility for preparation and presentation of network and switching proposals utilizing the latest state-of-the-art communications equipment. Ref. OT3128.

Components Engineers

Semiconductor Components: for reliability analyses on passive and active electrical components. Familiarity with the fundamentals of semiconductor technology, process flow, device structures, silicon growth and wafer manufacturing, oxidation, photo-masking diffusion and ion implantation is essential. You must also have experience in accelerated testing of active components and the ability to use a variety of techniques such as electrical measurements, optical microscopy, transmission electron microscopy, scanning electron microscopy and electron X-ray diffraction. Ref. OT3129.

Linear Devices: to develop and sustain linear I.C. test methods and hardware. A sound understanding of linear components as applied to a variety of systems is essential. You must be familiar with the use of data sheets and have some experience with commercial and military specifications. Test systems experience with LTX, LTS 2000 and GENRAD 1781 would be an asset. Ref. OT3130.

Passive Components: to handle miniaturized, passive components for high density/precision computer grade PCBs. You will provide technical support to the design, procurement, manufacturing and quality control of switching system hardware as well as to a portfolio of several families of passive components. You will manage and drive projects within your portfolio, request funds for them and drive for results in accordance with agreed action plans. You must have an engineering or science degree with training in materials and/or metallurgy including electrical/electronic uses. Two or more years' experience with electronic connectors, miniature switches, capacitors, magnetics, PCBs, or surface mount devices would be a definite asset. Ref. OT3131.

Semiconductor Analysis: to cover failure analysis on both passive and active components. This calls for familiarity with the fundamentals of integrated circuit design, layout and processing. Experience of electrical micro-probing of integrated circuits would be of considerable benefit. A working knowledge of semiconductor physics and experience in the accelerated testing of active components are essential. In addition, familiarity with metallurgical preparation techniques, S.E.M., and X.E.S. techniques in the analysis of component failures is important. Ref. OT3132.

Canada is ideal for family living and offers one of the highest standards of living in the world. These opportunities are based on the outskirts of Toronto, one of the finest cities in North America and offer easy access to quality housing, excellent education and a wide range of leisure pursuits. And that's just the beginning! With Northern Telecom you'll be in a company which is going from strength to strength and you'll be able to go as far as your talents and ambitions can take you.

Interviews will be held in the near future. To explore your potential send us your detailed C.V. quoting the appropriate reference to: Peter J. Phillips, Hodges-Riley Recruitment Limited, Old Court House, Old Court Place, Kensington, London W8 4PD.



MANAGEMENT ANALYST c. £11,000

We are part of an international group of companies with a small and highly mobile management services team based in London. This team includes: - monetary and analysis results in subsidiary companies - short term assignments to solve specific problems on behalf of the local management of our subsidiaries - analysis of new investment opportunities and the preparation of feasibility studies and business plans (mainly for high tech venture capital investments). Rapid growth and diversification make appointment to this team a challenging and potentially rewarding proposition. If you have 4 or 5 years' commercial or industrial experience, have had some formal business studies related education, and drive on hard work, please communicate your initiative by phoning or showing up secretary for an early morning or late evening appointment. C. R. Richardson, R.M.C. (UK) LTD, 01-408 2114

General Appointments

THE BREWERS' SOCIETY

Deputy Retail Secretary

The Brewers' Society is the Trade Association for the brewing industry

We are seeking a Deputy for the present Retail Secretary, who is due to retire in late 1986. The person appointed must have the calibre to be considered for his post when the vacancy occurs (although there is of course no guarantee that he/she will be so appointed).

The Retail Secretary is responsible for the running of the Retail Committee, which is one of the major committees of the Society, and deals with a wide range of matters concerning the operation of public houses, retail training, the retailing of drinks and developments in the leisure industry, including tourism. His duties include maintaining relations with organisations representing pub licensees and other branches of the licensed trade, preparing papers and memoranda on relevant subjects, arranging and participating in discussions with Government Departments (both at ministerial and staff levels), organising and assisting the Society's representatives on the Licensed Non-Residential Establishment Wages Council, and supervising two residential retail training centres operated by the Society.

Applicants must be graduates or have comparable qualifications. Legal qualifications are an asset but are not essential. Commercial experience is highly desirable. The candidate must have proven administrative ability and the capacity to communicate and work effectively with a wide range of people. His/her duties will call for a high level of tact, diplomacy and discretion.

He or she is likely to be in his or her 40's, but there are no specific age limits.

**SALARY c. £14,000 - PLUS FREE BUPA COVER
SUBSIDISED CANTEN - CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SCHEME
FREE LIFE ASSURANCE AND SICKNESS BENEFIT
FOUR WEEKS ANNUAL HOLIDAY**

Applications should be in writing, enclosing a full C.V. and addressed to:

**The Personnel Officer, The Brewers' Society,
42 Portman Square, London, W1H 0BB**

**A CHALLENGE
IN MANAGEMENT FOR
AN IBM/MVS SPECIALIST
WHOSE PROFOUND
TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE
IS SUPPLEMENTED
BY A RARE TALENT FOR
COMMUNICATION.**

Later this year our head office at Maidenhead and our manufacturing plant at Spensymoor, County Durham, will each take delivery of an IBM 4381. This will be the second step in a major move of D.R. towards IBM under MVS, a reorganisation which is a key part of Black & Decker's corporate move towards global integration.

The first step will be the senior appointment of an IBM Technical Facilities Manager, an expert in all aspects of IBM/MVS operations and the guiding hand of the environment at both locations. This is a long term development which is undoubtedly the most ambitious undertaking of its kind, involving advanced, integrated real-time systems for

WE KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE SOMEWHERE

both marketing and manufacturing functions. Capacity planning and performance monitoring, software specification, and the setting and maintenance of standards will all be your responsibility. You'll be expected to keep abreast of developments in hardware and computing technology and advise management of their implications. So far so good, but nothing too out of the ordinary. What makes this job exceptional is its high visibility. Essentially you'll be the company's source of reference on IBM, and a strong influence on working relationships between development and operations staff at both sites. This will demand tact, discretion, and a real gift for effective communication. We're looking for a scientist with computers

and an artist with people. There will be a high degree of liaison with the United States and probably some travel there. Wherever you are now - it could be a software house, a consultancy or an IBM installation - you've arrived there via a technical programming route and have experienced plenty of client/user contact. Now you're ready for responsibility on a management level. Accept the challenge, and we'll give you the choice of a Maidenhead or Spensymoor base and pay relocation expenses if necessary. We have been deliberately candid about the nature of the task ahead. So you'll believe us when we say that the salary and benefits offered in return will be a true reflection of the post's importance. We'll leave you to

contemplate the long term career prospects. If you feel it's time to emerge from the shadows, Jim Cannon our Management Services Director is waiting to talk to you and tell you more. Contact him on 0628 852 2130, or on 0628 28428 after office hours and at weekends, alternatively write to him at Black & Decker, Cannon Lane, Maidenhead, Berks.

Opportunities for IBM people in various disciplines will be offered in the near future. Please write to Jim Cannon for details.

Black & Decker

PHARMACEUTICALS

**Production Director
(designate)**

**c. £23,000
+ Car and
Benefits**

Pharmax is a rapidly expanding Company in the Health Care Field, based in Bexley, Kent, manufacturing a comprehensive range of ointment, liquid and tablet products.

We have recently launched two major products utilising unique formulation technology. The early success of these products and exceptional rise in our export business has created this attractive opportunity for an experienced Production Executive to further their career.

Reporting directly to the Managing Director, you will have the responsibility of managing our existing Manufacturing/Packaging Departments, and will also have the facility to reorganise and implement improved production control systems and management. In addition, you will be expected to make a significant contribution to the strategic development

of the Company in both ethical pharmaceuticals and our aggressive programme for the expansion of our O.T.C. Health Care Product Range.

Applicants should ideally:-

- have a pharmaceutical or related degree
- be aged 35-45 years
- a minimum of 5 years middle to senior production management experience in the pharmaceutical or allied industry.

If you are interested in this opportunity and have the leadership qualities to join an enthusiastic and successful management team, then we would like to meet you. In the first instance, please send your full CV to:-

Susan Robertson, Personnel Manager
PHARMAX LIMITED
Bourne Road, Bexley, Kent DA5 1NX.



PHARMAX



PRODUCT MANAGER

Fruit Juices & Beverages

Del Monte is the UK market leader in Fruit Juice and Canned Fruit with a TIO of more than £50 million. Internationally it is one of the largest food companies in the world and with the financial backing of its parent, the R.J. Reynolds Group, it has highly ambitious development plans.

In the UK, it wishes to appoint a young, classically trained Product Manager. He or she will run the best known range of Del Monte Fruit Juice and Beverage products and will report to the Marketing Manager.

£12,000 + Car

Candidates will be 24 to 30 with 'A' levels and a degree or its equivalent. He or she will currently be an Assistant Brand Manager in a FMCG Company and some sales experience is desirable. Good communication skills and a strong personality are essential traits.

Clear career opportunities exist for future development. A competitive benefits package accompanies a salary of £12,000 + company car.

Applicants should write forwarding their CVs which will be treated in strict confidence (stating current salary) to Judith Firth.

RAM CONSULTANTS LIMITED

1 Garrick House, Carrington Street, London W1Y 7LF (01-627 3215)

SCRIPTWRITER External Services

To prepare documentary features and short talks on the whole field of political, social and intellectual life in Britain and abroad. The work is designed primarily for use in translation, but much of it is also carried in English in the World Service.

The successful candidate will have proven writing ability, wide interests, good political judgement and education to university standard or equivalent. Experience of radio (including a good broadcasting voice) and knowledge of at least one foreign language would be an asset.

Salary £12,637 - £15,453 (according to qualifications and experience). Based Central London. Relocation expenses considered.

Contact us immediately for application form (quoting ref: 2487/T and enclosing s.a.e.) to BBC Appointments, London, W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-927 5799.

We are an Equal Opportunities employer

BBC

Technical Support Manager

Starting salary to £18,000 p.a. plus car

As a direct result of internal promotion, we are now seeking a Technical Support Manager.

The successful applicant will be responsible, through a current staff of 20+, for all aspects of central site computer support for the operating systems and other software on IBM mainframes and to ensure that currency is maintained.

Our current technical specification is as follows: 3083B and 3083J with 3350 and 3380 disks running VM/HPO, MVS/SP1.3, CICS/VS, IDMS, plus an SNA network of around 100 terminals.

In addition, we have 3 PDP11/70 computers driving an on-line data entry system with around 150 terminals.

Although the technical support manager will need a good knowledge of the IBM environment described, this is predominantly a management position and applicants must have sound management experience, preferably at a similar level.

The successful applicant, male or female, should also have had 10 years DP experience predominantly gained in technical disciplines and have a sound knowledge of IBM systems and software.

There is an excellent benefits package which includes non-contributory pension, annual bonus, free life assurance and full relocation assistance, where appropriate.

To apply, please send full CV, including details of current salary, to Mr R. P. Hannam, Personnel Department, Corporation of Lloyd's, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Kent ME4 4TU.

LLOYD'S OF LONDON



**IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
WITH A
WORLDWIDE LEADER**

We are a prominent International Shipping concern experiencing unparalleled growth and seek the following individuals to work in our United Kingdom operation and also in our European operating areas (including the Mediterranean).

SALES & SALES MANAGEMENT POSITIONS Primary duties for these prominent positions involve developing new business, servicing existing accounts and supervision of sales staff. Experience of Middle East and Far East trade lanes of particular interest to us.

OPERATION/TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONALS Positions of senior level are available to be involved in the development and control of Port facilities and inland operations.

FINANCE Cost and Management Accountants required with knowledge of International Transportation.

TRAINÉES Candidates are required in sales, operations and pricing departments. The ability to be mobile is essential.

A degree or business qualification will be favourably looked upon, along with shipping/transportation experience and language skills, but this without the necessary drive and energy to get results is not enough.

Please send your typewritten CV to:
K J Phillips, Esq.,
Manager - Personnel & Administration - Europe, United States Lines,
Rowater House, 68 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LX.

Careers in VLSI design-USA.

We are the fifth largest captive semiconductor manufacturer in North America with wafer fab facilities in Costa Mesa, California, and Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Our VLSI Design Centre is in West Chester. Our parent company, Commodore International, is a rapidly expanding \$1 billion corporation whose sales have nearly doubled every year for the last five years.

Yet, Commodore Semiconductor Systems retains a small company entrepreneurial atmosphere.

Come and help us develop state-of-the-art MOS Processes, Custom IC Designs to implement systems on silicon for our next generation 16/32 bit home and personal computers.

IC Design Engineer

Responsible for custom IC development from concept to prototype production.

Experience required in logic,

circuit design and simulation. A good relevant University degree is required together with a minimum of two years related experience.

Process Development Engineer

Develop integrated process technologies in CMOS.

Principal involvements will include thin gate dielectrics, latch-up characterisation, double poly silicon, double metal and stepper technology.

Familiarity with plasma technology (etch and CVD) advanced photolithography techniques or multi-layer interconnect necessary. Two years related experience and a good degree in materials science or electrical engineering are required.

Design Implementation Engineer

Responsible for test design, tester programming, evaluation and characterisation of VLSI designs. Will participate on design

teams for testability analysis and test vector generation. Requires a good degree and a minimum of two years related experience.

Commodore Semiconductor Systems support Commodore Business Machines with custom LSI circuits. But that's not all. We also support you in reaching new heights of your career.

And, as you're extending your boundaries, you'll experience a new world... a place near scenic and historic Valley Forge, minutes from Philadelphia and just a little over an hour from New York City... a place where you can enjoy both the culture activities of the city and the advantage of country-style living.

In other words, you can have it all including affordable housing, paid relocation and a compensation and benefits package that accurately reflects your abilities.

commodore

For immediate details, you may call Sharon Hall reverse charge on 010-1-215-431-9183 Monday to Friday. Or you may forward your resume and position desired to: Mrs I. Richardson, Commodore Business Machines (UK) Ltd., 675 Ajax Avenue, Trading Estate, Slough, Berkshire SL1 4BG. Interviews for these positions will be held initially in London.

BISHOPSGATE

BISHOPSGATE TERMINALS LIMITED

**CUSTOMER PROJECT MANAGERS
SYSTEMS AND TERMINALS**

**£10,000 to £20,000 +
up to 25% Bonus + Car + Fun**

Bishopsgate designs and manufactures customised terminal hardware/firmware and data transport systems. Bishopsgate's products are widely used in intelligent terminal networks, fast-response information systems and data collection applications. Typical users include The Stock Exchange, British Telecom, V.A.G., Runbelows, a major Clearing Bank and the Civil Aviation Authority.

We require several Project Managers at various salary levels to represent us in The City, The Motor Industry, and The Retail and Distribution Trades. They need to be able to select between prospects, and to understand both their commercial needs and system requirements in order to specify technical solutions for their applications.

We would expect applicants to be educated to University level and to have successfully managed projects in similarly demanding environments.

Qualifications should include some of the following:

- Previous project management experience.
- Personal communications skills/sales experience.
- Data communications background.
- Software/firmware engineering/programming.
- DP bureau or P.C. sales/systems experience.

Contact Richard O'Connell on 0442 27241, or write enclosing a C.V. (quoting reference ST) to Bishopsgate Terminals Ltd., The Old Brew House, 120 High Street, Old Woking, Surrey GU22 6LD.

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General Appointments

LA PREMIERE BANQUE DE BELGIQUE RECHERCHE UN TRADUCTEUR OU UNE TRADUCTRICE FRANCAIS - ANGLAIS

SI VOUS AVEZ:

- un diplôme universitaire en traduction;
- une expérience d'au moins 3 ans;
- une connaissance parfaite du français, avec l'anglais pour langue maternelle;
- de bonnes connaissances d'une troisième langue, de préférence le néerlandais;
- 40 ans maximum.

NOUS VOUS OFFRONS:

- une rémunération mensuelle brute qui peut aller de 65.000 à 85.000F (800 à 1.100 Livres environ) en fonction de votre expérience;
- de nombreux avantages extra-légaux.

POSEZ VOTRE CANDIDATURE:

- Cette candidature doit:
- être accompagnée d'un curriculum vitae manuscrit et détaillé;
- nous parvenir à l'adresse suivante: SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE DE BANQUE A l'attention de Madame Servais (K/30) Montagne du Parc, 3 - B-1000 Bruxelles Belgique.



Société Générale de Banque

Managing Director

c £40,000 p.a.

Southwest
England

Mechanical
Engineering

A challenging opportunity has arisen for a Managing Director in this well established and highly successful mechanical engineering company with an eight figure turnover.

The person appointed to this position will be a strong team leader, capable of implementing aggressive UK and international marketing strategies. Applicants must be qualified mechanical engineers, preferably with a MBA and extensive senior level management experience in precision engineering preferably with some of it overseas.

Remuneration comprises a basic salary of £40,000 p.a. and appropriate benefits including a profit sharing scheme, relocation assistance where appropriate, company pension scheme, BUPA, and company car of the Director's own choice of value in excess of £15,000.

Please write in confidence in the first instance to Times, Box 1249L. All replies will be passed to the client unless you advise of specific companies to which your CV should not be sent.

Systems Consultants upto £17,500+car

Growth, security, success. (Interested?)

Success is something Hambro Life knows more about than most companies in Britain today.

Entirely committed to advanced computerised systems, we keep growing at an impressive rate year after year.

Consequently, we need more, top quality Systems staff - ideally the kind of people who find their personal development is already outgrowing the opportunities afforded by their present company.

Our company is committed not simply to growth, but also to diversification into the complete range of integrated financial services. Within the Allied Hambro Group, our interests spread beyond life assurance and pensions into unit trusts, investment and financial management, and banking services. And you could find yourself called upon to solve important business problems in any of these areas...

Senior Systems Consultants c£17,500+car

We need experienced professionals who want to take on challenging work in any part of the group: typically investigating and analysing business problems, proposing solutions and then taking overall responsibility for part of a major systems development.

You are probably a graduate, aged around 30, with at least 6 years' large scale systems experience as well as a record of successful implementations which reflect the high level qualities we need.

The demands of the job are high but so too are the rewards. As well as a competitive salary and company car, we're offering a benefits package which includes non-contributory pension, profit sharing, share option scheme, free life cover, BUPA and generous relocation assistance to Wiltshire.

No wonder our Systems Department enjoys a high reputation, exceptional team spirit and extremely low staff turnover.

Like to know more? To give you more information we've written a comprehensive booklet covering the jobs and the Company. To obtain a copy plus an application form please call Marilyn Wedge on Swindon 0793 46700 (24 hour answerphone), or write to her at Hambro Life Assurance plc, Allied Hambro Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL.

ALLIED HAMBRO
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

LIFE ASSURANCE • PENSIONS • UNIT TRUSTS • FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

VACANCY IMMEDIATE

MULTI-DISCIPLINED COMPANY IN RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA HAVE VACANCY FOR A TECHNICAL MANAGER.

KITCHEN CABINETS DIVISION.

APPLICANT MUST HAVE EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF KITCHEN CABINETS INDUSTRY AND BE CONVERSANT WITH ALL STAGES OF OPERATIONS INCLUDING PRICING, SITE MANAGEMENT, AND PROCEDURAL ORGANIZATION. COMPANY AT PRESENT INVOLVED IN PROJECTS RANGING FROM £5000 - £2 MILLION. TERMS AND CONDITIONS DEPENDANT ON QUALIFICATIONS.

PLS SEND C.V. TO:
TANNAH UNITED COMPANY
P.O. BOX 304 RIYADH 11411 SAUDI ARABIA

M.A. in Marketing Management School of Management and Organisational Sciences University of Lancaster

Our M.A. course will help equip you to become a Brand Manager, Marketing Manager, Researcher or Consultant. If you are already in Marketing, it will enable you to enlarge your career opportunities, and give you depth and perspective, as well as practical, in-touch training and experience. It is still not too late to be considered for this 12-month course opening in October 1984, provided you have a good first degree or equivalent qualification and some practical business experience.

Write for details to M.A. Admissions Secretary, Department of Marketing, Gillow House, University of Lancaster, Lancaster LA1 4YX. Or phone Peter Spillard (Head of Department) or Albert Schofield (Course Director) to discuss possibilities. (Tel: 0524 65201).

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Following recent reorganisation the school is seeking to fill two administrative posts offering interesting and varied work and potential to the right candidate for development within university administration.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: External Relations

This post will be concerned with the information and alumnus activities of the school's external relations office including a variety of entrepreneurial and editorial risks.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: Conferences and Functions

This post will be concerned with the promotion of facilities in the school including halls of residence for conferences and functions and related administrative work in the bursar's area.

Applications are invited from graduates or those with equivalent qualifications with experience of or interest in university administration. Salary will be on the grade 1A senior administrative scale (currently under review) £7,496-£12,801 including London allowance.

Please write for application forms, to be returned by 6 June 1984, and further details to the Assistant Personnel Officer, LSE, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE.

Crabtree & Evelyn LONDON

PRODUCT AND PACKAGING CO-ORDINATOR

Working from our new offices & warehouse near Abingdon, Oxon, Crabtree & Evelyn require a capable and intelligent person with a computer background in the field of Database input & update procedure. Using an IBM System 34 the successful applicant primary work would be the monitoring, ordering, and control of all movements of our extensive range of products and materials.

Please apply in writing only to:
Carol Irving
Crabtree & Evelyn (Overseas) Ltd
6 Kensington Church Street, London W8 2PD

YOUNG GRADUATE

required for small specialist firm of LLOYD'S BROKERS

An opportunity has arisen for a young graduate (or a very bright non-graduate would be considered) to join a lively young team in a progressive firm of Lloyd's brokers. The successful applicant must be interested in a job where personality and initiative are important requisites. If you are prepared to be trained from scratch for a career with excellent prospects, please write with CV to Barbara Riggs, Box 0517L The Times.

ADVENTURE HOLIDAY CENTRE
North Devon Coastguard Station
Offers seasonal holiday homes
with full board accommodation.
2200 p.w. 5000 p.w. 10000 p.w.
Bookings 03372 4455.

DRIVER/ASSISTANT to Company
Director. General London, full and
partial. Reliable, hard working,
intelligent person. Excellent pay and
benefits. £21,000.

ART DEALER (West End) requires
physically fit for general duties
including stock control and handling
large degree manual but knowledge of
art, craft and sculpture. Send CV
Box No 1267L The Times.

FINANCIAL CONSULTANT and/or artistic
drawing/assistant required for top
business consultant, design consultant.
Tel: 493-1177 for interview.

CAPABLE PERSON required to assist
in applications shop. Fulltime, 9.55
7.55.

DEVELOPMENT AGENT Pickup Programme

Salary range: £12,399-£16,656 p.a.

As part of the programme entitled "PICKUP" (Professional, Industrial and Commercial Up-dating) the Welsh Office in collaboration with the Further Education Unit (FEU) wishes to appoint a Development Agent to promote and encourage the development of post-experience vocational education by Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges. Such mid-career PICKUP provision includes courses of many types, often of short duration, at all levels and across the whole range of employment. Applicants should preferably have experience of both industry and/or commerce and higher and further education, ideally including the provision of mid-career vocational courses. The ability to work independently, to establish close links with a variety of individuals, organisations and institutions and to communicate effectively - orally and in writing - are essential.

The post, which will cover the whole of Wales, will be attached to and managed from the FEU in London. Considerable travel will be necessary and applicants must have a current full driving licence.

The appointment will be for a period of 2 years, and secondment from present post will be acceptable. It is hoped that the successful applicant will take up post on 1 September 1984 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Detailed information and application forms are available from the Welsh Office, WOED-FEU, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NQ. Completed application forms must be returned by Friday, 8 June 1984. It is expected that interviews will be held in Cardiff at the end of June.

Y SWYDDFA GYMREIG
Welsh Office
Further Education Unit

THE BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS

Basle, Switzerland

has a vacancy for an experienced ENGLISH TRANSLATOR

for the translation and revision of financial, economic and other technical texts.

Qualifications required: Good degree from a British university; at least five years' experience in translation; perfect command of English and very good knowledge of French, German and, preferably Italian.

Attractive salary, pension scheme and other ancillary benefits.

Interested applicants are invited to write to the Personnel Manager, Bank for International Settlements, 4002 Basle, Switzerland, enclosing full personal details, references and a photograph.

Applications will be treated in strict confidence.

BUILDING USE STUDIES LIMITED FULL-TIME RESEARCH ASSISTANT

We are a small, busy, broad-ranging research and consultancy firm covering architecture, planning, ergonomics, organisational science and related fields. We are seeking skills in systematic desk research and social survey work. Ideally you are either a social science graduate with experience in planning or design, or a designer/planner with social research experience. Several years work in industry, consultancy or professional practice is desirable.

Salary up to £12,000. Future possibility of shareholding/directorship.

Apply with CV to:-
DR PETER ELLIS, Managing Director
Building Use Studies Ltd,
8/9 Eustrode Place
Marylebone Lane,
London, W1M 5FW

HOUSE GOVERNOR AND SECRETARY BRITISH HOME AND HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES

Applications are invited for the post of House Governor and Secretary of the Charity who will be responsible to the Board for the day-to-day management of the Home.

The House Governor will be assisted by the Finance Officer. Preference will be given to mature applicants with wide administrative experience. Commencing salary £15,000 a year. Superannuation scheme.

The successful candidate will be expected to live within a reasonable distance of the Home and removal expenses will be paid.

Closing date for applications 8th June 1984 to: Crown Lane, Stratham, London SW16 3JB.

Partnership Secretary
and Co-ordinator required
For medium-size City chartered
surveyors with 4 branch
offices. Written applications for
job specifications to: Senior
Partners, Kennedy, Whitely and
Forster, 20-24
Ropemaker St, EC2Y 9AJ.

PERSONNEL CONTROLLER

c. £20,000 pa

Selfridges are now looking for a Personnel Controller for their prestigious store in Oxford Street. He or she will be responsible to the Board for the provision of a personnel and training service for over 3,000 staff, and for the management of a sizeable team of personnel professionals. Priorities will include employee relations, pay negotiations, and the development of policies and procedures in line with the needs of this expanding business.

Applicants, preferably in the age range 35-45, will need to have a number of years sound personnel and training experience, including industrial relations, with a progressive company, ideally in the retail or service sector.

Salary is supported by an excellent range of 'large company' benefits.

To apply, please forward concise career details in strict confidence, to Roy Stephens, Managing Director, Selfridges Limited, 400 Oxford Street, London W1A 1AB.

Selfridges

MANCHESTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Salary Circa £25,000.

+ Essential User Car Allowance, Telephone Allowance, Removal Expenses and Lodging Allowance

Manchester International Airport is the largest wholly municipally-owned airport in the UK, handling 5.2m passengers in 1983 with an estimated annual operational turnover of £48m in the financial year 1983/84.

The Director of Operations is a member of the airport's management team, with responsibility for all operational matters including ramp and terminal services, airside safety, fire, rescue and security services and engineering services. The post-holder is also responsible for maintaining close liaison with the CAA, airlines and other airport users.

Applicants must have proven managerial experience and ability at a senior level in a large commercial organisation. Whilst experience in civil aviation would be an asset, this is not essential.

Application form and further details available from the Head of Personnel Services, Manchester International Airport Authority, Manchester, M22 5PA. Telephone 061-499-3714. Completed applications to be returned by 8th June 1984.

NEW
PRODUCT

£14-18,000 &

General Appointments

SALES EXECUTIVES

On target to achieve another record breaking sales year Wang, world leader in the field of Office Automation, are

now expanding their business operations.

Opportunities exist nationwide within the dealer, end user and major accounts sectors. Expertise in key vertical markets: commercial, banking and insurance would be an advantage.

You should be one of the computer industry's top professionals with the leadership and drive to be successful in a fast growing company. Wang's growth plans require experienced sales executives.

Realistic on target earnings are £24K with up to £22K guaranteed. Generous relocation expenses and car or car allowance are offered in addition to all major company benefits.

Wang intends to maintain its number one position. Do you?

To apply, contact our consultant Rosemary Forsyth today at 87 Jermyn Street, London SW1. Tel: 01-930 7912.

FORSYTH
executive

UNIX SYSTEMS MARKET MANAGER £25K + CAR



Gould is an innovative electronics company with ambitions and capabilities which makes us the envy of our competitors. Gould was the first to fully adopt the UNIX operating system from within the company. We can proudly say that UNIX runs on our smallest supermicro workstation up to our CONCEPT 32/97 which is the fastest supermini computer in the world.

We seek a UNIX specialist with a technical background and a flair for marketing UNIX in support of our sales force. You command authority and respect based on your in-depth knowledge of UNIX Systems, applications, and marketplace. You will be highly motivated and enjoy working as a member of a team. You will probably come from a senior level in either Sales or Marketing. Your ambition and dedication will be strong enough to establish Gould as the premier supplier of UNIX systems to the UK market in the shortest time. In return we can offer you a very attractive salary and benefits package with no upper limit for real success. If you believe you fit the image of the person we need then accept this invitation to come and talk to us.

To join the Gould team - write with full c.v. or telephone for an application form to Debby Askew, Gould S.E.L. Computer Systems Limited, Copthall House, Grove Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1BY. Telephone no: 01-643 8020. Ref: MKT/UNIX 001.

THE SIMON STORAGE GROUP LIMITED

Opportunities in Bulk Liquid Storage

Due to expansion and internal promotion we have vacancies in our London Head Office for 2 additional staff. The Group manages bulk liquid storage terminals in the UK and has overseas interests. Its primary function is as a Service Company to the Oil, Chemical and Vegetable Oil Industries and it is the leading company in this field in the UK. It is a subsidiary of Simon Engineering plc.

1. Project Engineer

A Project Engineer is required to assist the Engineering Manager in the design and supervision of the construction of new facilities and of major maintenance works.

Applicants should have at least 5 years' experience of design and engineering in the oil/petrochemical field with a mechanical/electrical background. Experience of the UK contractor market would be beneficial, together with a sound knowledge of construction cost control procedures.

The successful applicant will be based in the company's Head Office in London but will be required to travel frequently to company installations which are mainly situated in the UK.

The main required criteria include:

Age range 27/35.
A minimum of HNC (Mech Eng).
Experience and proven ability in the Engineering construction field.

2. Commercial Assistant

Reporting to the Commercial Manager the applicant will be responsible for negotiating contracts for the use of the Company's facilities at the various terminals within the Group. The ideal candidate will have had experience in the Supply or Distributions Department of an Oil or Chemical Company or have practical experience with a Shipping Company dealing in bulk products. Education should be to university standard. The position will appeal to persons in the age range 25-30 who are numerate and interested in a challenging position where they would be expected to work largely on their own and be judged by their results.

In each case salary and benefits will be by negotiation, commensurate with experience. Applications in writing with full curriculum vitae should be sent to:

Managing Director,
Simon Storage Group Limited,
134/138 Borough High Street,
London, SE1 1LB.

Wines in Canada.....

Innovation, aggressiveness and consummate professionalism are the hallmarks of this private Canadian importer and producer of wines, ciders and spirits, with Head Office in Vancouver, British Columbia. Successful, established and growing quickly, this organisation now seeks to recruit its first

GENERAL SALES MANAGER

Train, motivate and direct a national network of young, aggressive, creative representatives while personally handling house accounts. With a proven sales management record in the field, this sophisticated, internationally travelled, hands-on achiever will produce spectacular results. An excellent knowledge of European wines is mandatory. This appointment should lead to the position of General Manager - Wine Import Division, within 12-18 months.

Here is that unique opportunity to realise your maximum potential..... Telephone or write in confidence, quoting Project No. 31220 to The Caldwell Partners, 29 Buckingham Gate, London SW1 6NF. Telephone 01-834 7966.

The Caldwell Partners International
Toronto / Montreal / Calgary / Vancouver / Houston / London



Marketing Director

Trusthouse Forte Hotels is one of the leading Companies within the THF Group, operating 220 hotels in the UK and overseas, ranging from 5 star de-luxe city centre to small high quality country hotels.

A new position is being created for a Marketing Director who will be responsible to the Company Sales & Marketing Director for providing strong co-ordination and direction for all marketing activities covering a number of key market segments.

This senior appointment calls for an experienced and creative Marketing specialist who enjoys working under pressure in a profit and customer orientated organisation.

The starting salary, company car, pension scheme and benefits package will reflect the importance of the position.

Please write, in strictest confidence, giving details of qualifications, experience, age and current salary to:

Colin Forbes,
Personnel & Training Director,
Trusthouse Forte Hotels,
St. Martin's House,
20 Queensmure,
Slough, Berks.



**Trusthouse
Forte**

CLINIQUE

are seeking a REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

We require an outgoing self-motivated person who has a proven success record, for this new and challenging position covering the South of England. Responsibilities include the direction and motivation of a sales team. The preparation, control and achievement of sales budgets within set expenditure levels to ensure the overall growth of over 120 accounts within the Region.

Candidates must be able to successfully negotiate at all levels of management; be well-groomed, self-reliant and must have gained all the relevant experience required for this position.

This position offers an excellent salary, company car and all the usual benefits associated with a progressive company.

Applications should be sent to:

Roger Harper
NATIONAL SALES MANAGER
CLINIQUE LABORATORIES LIMITED
64 Grosvenor Street, London W1

FLAT SALES NEGOTIATOR DRUCE & COMPANY HAMPSHIRE

A Rare opportunity for a very hard working individual to join a large Sales Team in Hampshire Village, experience not essential, but a talent for estimating quickly, also to act in a professional but ambitious manner and to have the ability to "Mix" important. Good Salary. High Commission. Car for Discussion.

This company promotes from within. Please Reply:

J V H MORRIS
1, Heath Street, Hampstead, NW3.
or Phone 01-435 4000

If you know how advanced communications networking could benefit business - why not make it your business? We'd like to hear from graduate professionals whose backgrounds might include:-

- ☐ Computing ☐ Telecommunications
- ☐ Cable Operations ☐ Data Networking
- ☐ High Technology Products ☐ Aerospace
- ☐ Satellite Communications ☐ Consultancy
- ☐ Product & Market Management
- ☐ Distribution ☐ N.P.D.

NEW TECHNOLOGY PRODUCT MARKETING TEAM

£14-18,000 & car

You may not be in marketing today, but could you develop tomorrow's telecommunications products to meet customer needs?

This major blue-chip company will have invested £200 million by 1985 in developing and installing a total communications network, both national and international which will be valid into the next century. Services are digital and use microwave, satellite, coaxial cable and fibre optics.

Marketing is focused on developing and exploiting products and services in a pragmatic and customer orientated way. There are immediate vacancies in product marketing for managers to cover voice, data and interactive services as well as other products at various stages of development. These include services provided over local networks and satellite systems. Responsibilities include identification and evaluation of product opportunities, planning, pricing, definition and achievement of objectives and future product and market place tactics. Intelligent, numerate, fast-learning, flexible, commercially and technically aware graduate candidates, aged 27 to 35, could have varied backgrounds not necessarily in marketing. They will be keen to expand their careers in a new and exciting sector and join a rapidly growing enterprise working within a powerful established marketing team. Strong interpersonal skills are required in order to relate effectively with the market place and sales, operational and technical colleagues. Rewards include a negotiable salary, car, non-contributory pension, BUPA options, relocation to the London area etc.

Please send full career history, in total confidence, to: Giles Foy, quoting reference 913/ST, Crailfern Corporate Consultants Limited, 2 Berkeley Square, London W1X 5HG. Tel: 01-629 0682.



**CRAILFERN
CORPORATE
CONSULTANTS**
Executive Selection Division

Our client has specifically requested a "Hungry, Mean and Aggressive Person"

Initially to be concerned with the launch of a new product onto the City market. Thereafter, the ideal applicant would become a part of the City sales section of this established Computer Company. Salary and benefits excellent, £10 - £12k, with commission. Please contact: Pamela Dickens, Recruitment Consultants, 1 New Burlington Street, London W1X 1PZ. Telephone: 01-437 6171/0846. Quoting reference T101.

Recruitment Consultants

Circa £20,000. We are seeking two more experienced interviewers to join our fast growing City office. You are involved in the recruitment of major client types of account at the top end of the market. If you consider you are the best in your field, but need a reference, please send your CV to: City Recruitment Consultants, 95 Woodstock, London, EC2.

NON-SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

WI HEADHUNTERS

Require well groomed senior Receptionist for busy reception area. Must have pleasant manner & be able to cope with VIPs. Salary £8,000 p.a. We have several vacancies for Showroom Assistants, preferably with some sales experience. Salary circa £5,000 p.a. Ring Sally Owens on 025 8427, 4 Park St, SW1.

K NIGHTS BRIDGE SECRETARIES E

RECEPTIONIST 35-45, required for elegant hotel in central London. You must be confident, well presented and have good secretarial skills. No typing required. Ring 856 6644. Stella Fisher Bureau.

PART TIME VACANCIES

Religious Publisher

Requires assistant to Publicity Manager (part-time) typing and some office experience essential. Apply: TERESA de BERTODANO 01-385 2341

ENTHUSIASTIC and self-motivated negotiator required for small estate agency in central London. Hrs and wages neg. 01-834 7966.

NURSE or Receptionist, Q&A surgery, NW3. 28 hours weekly. £3,000 p.a. Tel. 433 4954.

TEMPING TIMES

REC/TEL/TYP. £122 pw. W1. 3 months assignment only. 01-834 7966.

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY - Studied in accounting, shorthand and typing. 10 years' experience. 2 or 3 months in W1. Salary by negotiation. 01-834 7966.

ABR and shorthand secretary for 2 days a week. 01-834 7966.

COMPANY NOTICES

IMPERIAL JAPANESE GOVERNMENT 4th STEERING LOAN OF 1910. The Imperial Japanese Government is instructed by the Japanese Government to issue a loan of 100 million Yen (100 million Yen) to the United Kingdom Government for the purpose of financing the construction of the Japan-Korea Railway. The loan is to be repaid by the United Kingdom Government in 10 equal annual instalments of 10 million Yen each, starting on 1st January 1985. The loan is to be repaid in Yen.

TRANSFER BOOKS

QUEBEC CENTRAL RAILWAY Company. Capital Stock, in preparation of the 1984 Annual Report, will be closed at 3.30 pm on June 15 and will be re-opened on June 16, 1984. W. E. Reeve, Assistant Secretary, 1900, Bank Street, Montreal, Quebec H3T 2K4. Tel. 392-1100.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

BAKER AKTIEBEDELCHART The Annual General Meeting of Baker Aktiebelchart will be held on 27th June, 1984, in Cologne. The agenda of the meeting is: 1. Report of the Board of Directors for the year 1983. 2. Payment of a 14% dividend for the year 1983. 3. Election of members of the Supervisory Board. 4. Election of members of the Board of Directors. 5. Approval of the Annual Report for 1983. 6. Approval of the financial statements for 1983. 7. Approval of the budget for 1984. 8. Approval of the dividend for 1983. 9. Approval of the loan for 1984. 10. Approval of the loan for 1985. 11. Approval of the loan for 1986. 12. Approval of the loan for 1987. 13. Approval of the loan for 1988. 14. Approval of the loan for 1989. 15. Approval of the loan for 1990. 16. Approval of the loan for 1991. 17. Approval of the loan for 1992. 18. Approval of the loan for 1993. 19. Approval of the loan for 1994. 20. Approval of the loan for 1995. 21. Approval of the loan for 1996. 22. Approval of the loan for 1997. 23. Approval of the loan for 1998. 24. Approval of the loan for 1999. 25. Approval of the loan for 2000.

LEGAL NOTICES

RILEY & CO. (SHIPPING) LIMITED Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the shareholders of the above named Company will be held at 2nd Floor, 30 Southbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF on Thursday the 24th day of May 1984 at 1.00 o'clock p.m. for the purpose of electing a director in place of Mr. J. H. Morris, who has retired from office. Dated the 9th day of May 1984. A. L. HODGSON, Director.

Public Appointments

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Maintenance Services (Ref: C.5)

£18,537 - £20,505pa + Car Allowance
Lambeth, one of London's largest Boroughs seeks an outstanding man or woman to head up its Maintenance Division with a current staff/workforce of around 1000.

Essentially, the key task is to take responsibility for some 50,000 Council properties, ensuring they are kept in good repair and modernised/converted as where necessary. The Assistant Director will direct and co-ordinate the activities of six Works Managers each of whom has their own team. The Council's current budget for the Directorate is £35m with £18m of this for Maintenance.

Substantial experience in a similar role is essential although this need not necessarily have been in the public sector. The important attributes are strong leadership and pronounced skill in managing large numbers of people. This second tier post reports to the Director and is part of the Management Team. Lambeth is an inner city multi-racial Borough responsive to the special needs of the community it serves and is committed to a programme of equal opportunity. There is requirement therefore, to balance the need to be competitive and maximise the value of each £ spent with particular demands of working in a local authority environment.

Applications are invited from the Senior Personnel Officer, Directorate of Management Services, Lambeth Borough of Lambeth, 18 Brixton Hill, London SW2. Tel: 01-274 7722 Ext. 3008. Closing date 4th June, 1984.

As part of Lambeth's Equal Opportunities Policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of race, creed, nationality, disability, age, sex, orientation or responsibility for children or dependants.

LAMBETH

Assistant Emergency Planning Officer

Carlisle

£8,154 - £9,660

This post is based in the County Emergency Planning Team, Carlisle. The successful applicant will be involved in the preparation and maintenance of the County Council's emergency plans for peace and war in accordance with Statutory Regulations. This requires close liaison, senior level, with other Local Authorities, Emergency Services, Government Departments, Public Corporations, and the Armed Forces. Previous experience in emergency management or a related field, the ability to speak convincingly in public, and to express facts and opinions clearly, logically, and concisely in writing, are pre-requisites for this post and a willingness to train and work with civil defence volunteers, which involves occasional duties in the evenings and at weekends, is essential. Some knowledge of the nuclear and/or chemical industries is desirable. Preferred age group 30 to 50 unless exceptionally qualified.

Further details and application form, returnable by 1 June, from Clerk and Chief Executive, The County Council, Carlisle.

Cumbria

Clerk & Chief Executive

General Appointments

THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA

invites applications from

IBM COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS

for interesting and long term appointments at its Ministries headquarters in RIYADH.

SENIOR APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMERS - Graduates with not less than 5 years experience in design, develop and maintain complex programmes and to translate difficult problems in acceptable source code in one or more programming languages.

SENIOR PROGRAMMERS - Graduates with not less than 5 years experience in COBOL, JCL, Data Base, OS/VS2 operating systems, IBM System 370 or 3033 and on-line system maintenance of programmes and documentation.

SYSTEMS ANALYSIS - Graduate level plus 5 years systems analysis experience coupled with 2-3 years in Data Base design and on-line systems.

Excellent tax free salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience, and benefits which include married accommodation, status, accommodation or an additional allowance, air travel, generous leave, local transportation allowance and free medical care.

Please send I.C.V. (Ref: GS) to:-

Saudi Arabian Personnel Office
Suite 1, 4th Floor,
1 Great Cumberland Place,
London W1H 7AL

BUILDING A BIOTECHNOLOGY BUSINESS

Sales and Marketing

We are a new, British environmental and agricultural company. We need a marketing and sales manager with a track record of successful industrial marketing in a relevant industry and able to negotiate contracts, conduct market research, prepare position papers, undertake costing and pricing and display personal characteristics of dynamism, objectivity and motivation. The employment package includes a competitive salary and participation in the staff share-option scheme. We are offering a chance to enter an exciting new industry on the ground floor. This is an ideal challenge for someone in their late 20's or early 30's who wants a key management role in the growth of a business. Applications in writing should include career details and be sent to:

Miss Monika Ghosh
Personnel Manager
BioTechnica Limited
5 Chalfont Close
Cardiff CF4 5DL

BTL

AMGUEDDFA GENEOLAETHOL CYMRU

National Museum of Wales

ASSISTANT KEEPER

(Fine Art) Department of Art

Applications are invited for a post of Assistant Keeper (Curatorial Grade C) in the Department of Art. A degree in the History of Art and substantial previous experience in the administration of an important Fine Art Collection are required. A knowledge of French, Italian and German would be an advantage. Contributory Pension Rights

Salary Scale: £11,740 to £17,655 (Curatorial Grade C). (Under review)

Further particulars of the post may be obtained from The Secretary, National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NP, to whom applications should be submitted not later than Monday, 25 June 1984.

Executive Officer (Finance)

The Commission for Racial Equality have a vacancy for an Executive Officer (Finance) in their London office. The Officer will assist in controlling and monitoring the disbursement of grant aid to various organisations funded by the Commission. He/she will assist in the assessment of profit and loss accounts, balance sheets, consolidated accounts, interim and final reports of organisations receiving grants from the Commission. Experience in related work and local government procedures will be an advantage.

Starting salary will be at the minimum of the Executive Officer Scale £5,788 p.a. rising by several annual increments to a maximum of £8,098 p.a. in addition an Inner London Allowance of £1,250 p.a. is payable.

For further details and application forms please write to: Alison Rees, Commission for Racial Equality, Elliott House, 10-12 Allington Street, Victoria, London SW1E 3EH, enclosing a large stamped addressed envelope. Completed application forms should be returned no later than 6th June 1984.

The Commission is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are welcome from candidates of whatever race, sex or marital status and from persons with disabilities.



COMMISSION FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

For further details and application forms please write to: Alison Rees, Commission for Racial Equality, Elliott House, 10-12 Allington Street, Victoria, London SW1E 3EH, enclosing a large stamped addressed envelope. Completed application forms should be returned no later than 6th June 1984.

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La crème de la crème

SECRETARIES LEADING RECORD CO LONDON, W1

Names like Howard Jones, Aztec Camera, Mott, The Smiths and The Police are currently riding the heights through WEA Records. We're signing more and more bands of this calibre as part of our aim to build on the talents of UK artists.

This is why we are looking for secretaries whose experience, ideally in the music business, has already taught them how to cope with a daily flood of telephone calls and visitors and the endless lists of arrangements that need to be made - and supply a first-class secretarial service at the same time.

You will either work for our Director of A & R, who is responsible for signing and developing new and exciting UK acts; or for the UK International Manager, who is responsible for promoting products of the UK Company in other countries.

As well as good shorthand, audio and typing skills you must have an outgoing and attractive personality, plenty of initiative and flexibility and a responsible attitude. Ideal age: early to mid 20s. In return we offer competitive salaries and a range of benefits including five weeks annual holiday and discount on company products. Please send full details of age, current salary and career to date to:

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A Warner Communications Co

PA/Merchandiser To Chairman of Men's Knitwear Company

Expanding Import/Manufacturing Company dealing with large retail outlets both UK and abroad, are seeking enthusiastic PA/Merchandiser.

Secretarial skills in shorthand/typing, plus experience in dealing with own correspondence and confidential matters is required. Administration ability and eye for detail essential.

Must have previous involvement in merchandising activity preferably in knitwear, and experience in garment technology/manufacturing an advantage. Ability to work well within a small team which sometimes demands long hours.

Starting salary will be generous, and will reflect age and experience. Please contact Jo Topham: 01-580 9514.

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Ever felt like throwing your typewriter out of the window? If you have - join the rest of us who did just this and are doing very well indeed!

Five people who joined us less than 15 months ago are now among the higher paid in our sales force, earning at the rate of between £7,000 - £9,000 and all five were newcomers to selling when they joined us. We sell a complete range of stationary direct to offices, and will pay you a substantial guaranteed salary even during the three weeks' sales and product training course. You will also be provided with a car, have your expenses refunded and receive two outfits a year from a leading fashion house.

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Continuing expansion and promotions now make available new opportunities in Greater London and the Home Counties. So, if you are 21-29, grasp this challenge and take the first step to an exciting new career - telephone for an interview today!

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Are you personable and competent, with good secretarial skills, a lively personality and a sense of humour? If so you may be the person we need. A Director of a fast moving, high profile UK public company is looking for a PA to help him market and promote the company both here and in the USA (its businesses are split 50/50 between the 2 countries). The applicant would join a small head office team in Central London and have to be prepared to take on all sorts of tasks to earn a salary of approximately £10,000 pa. The ability to get on with all types of people is a must. This is a new position and would be as interesting and absorbing as you wish to make it.

If you would like to take this further please send a brief CV and covering letter to: Box 0519 L The Times.

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We are looking for a Legal Secretary, 25+, who would enjoy spending part of her day word processing for a Partner and his assistant in our Company and Commercial Department.

You will be trained on our Word Processor but secretarial skills are essential.

Excellent salary and staff benefits include Lunchtime Vouchers, BUPA and a season ticket loan.

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If you prefer handling large volumes of correspondence as opposed to being a high powered Secretary, we have a highly paid audio-typing vacancy for a suitably qualified person. We are a Pension/Financial Planning Brokerage using IBM Golfball typewriters and Displaywriters for which experience would be an advantage. Existing holiday arrangements honoured. Small busy office, if you like hard work and a matching salary please telephone: Mrs Essex on 01-581 4971 with full details of your experience and previous employment to date.

Strictly no agencies

Ritz Recruits . . .

We are a young, very lively, successful and fast expanding recruitment Consultancy in need of a young, very lively Secretary to support our busy executive team.

Based in Kensington, you will be expected to share a variety of tasks from greeting candidates to operating a busy switchboard - to booking travel, typing candidates CV's and keeping petty cash in order.

We wish to meet flexible candidates with excellent typing skills, 80 wpm, competent shorthand, 80 wpm, who are keen to join a fast moving environment. Non-smokers please, age 20-30.

Contact Kim Russell on Cherry Street on 01-938 1804

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Evening appointments welcome

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OIL COMPANY SECRETARIES

London W1. Circa £9,000

Amerada Hess (UK) Limited, the U.K. subsidiary of Amerada Hess Corporation, the world's 18th largest oil company currently has vacancies for two secretaries in the busy Operations and Accounts Departments of their London office.

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The job will involve full secretarial support to the seven members of the team and assistance to the Senior Secretary in running the department. There is a very heavy word processing load, so experience on the Wang OIS system is essential. A high level of accuracy is needed plus the ability to cope quickly and efficiently under pressure. Minimum speeds required are 100 wpm shorthand/60 wpm typing.

Accounts Secretary
Applicants should have fast and particularly accurate figure typing, knowledge of the Wang OIS system and be numerate. A minimum typing speed of 60 wpm is required, shorthand would be beneficial but not essential.

Applicants should have been educated to 'O' level standard and have at least two years commercial experience.

An excellent benefits package is offered, including £1.50 Lunchtime Vouchers per day, subsidised BUPA, 4 weeks holiday and season ticket loan.

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P.W. Brown,
Personnel Manager,
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Limited,
21 Stephen Street,
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PERSONNEL ASSISTANTS AND PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATORS

A number of excellent opportunities have arisen in a Fortune 100 Computer manufacturing company whose UK subsidiary is located in North West London. Applications are invited from qualified people who are interested in pursuing a career in personnel management.

Qualifications for those positions include 'A' level or higher as well as a secretarial qualification and at least 2 years' experience in a secretarial role, as good typing and shorthand are necessary. Successful applicants will be admitted into the professional salary scale at a level dependent on their academic background and work experience. It should be understood that these positions are not personnel officer or personnel manager role. But worth-while positions for those people who would find challenging a demanding workload of personnel administration.

Applications to:
Lynda Robbins
Personnel Administrator
Tel: 01-961 0222

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The Senior Partner of a growing firm of Consulting Engineers requires an experienced, mature Personal Secretary.

The job covers a wide range of tasks with some shorthand and typing. A positive but flexible approach essential. Non-smoker preferred.

Write to: Anita Pinney
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In today's world, the micro-chip industry stands virtually alone in terms of continued growth and job security. Within the industry itself National Semiconductor is enjoying an exciting growth rate. Ahead of the field. But perhaps that isn't so surprising for a multinational company that has a \$1 billion plus turnover as well as a reputation for quality and innovation.

Now, due to expansion of our European customer base, National Semiconductor are delighted to announce the opening of our second Marketing and Support Centre.

Based in Swindon, it will be at the heart of Europe's second largest market - also the fastest growing - the UK.

The benefits for National and our customers are truly exciting. We couldn't be better positioned to serve this expanding market as well as our existing European interests.

To do the job properly we need the right people. You must be dynamic, have initiative and drive as well as a desire to develop your career in an exciting, multinational company. The prospects are as limitless as your talent.

Secretary/PA to General Manager

The successful applicant will be able to combine exceptionally high secretarial skills and the ability to work consistently and accurately under pressure. Initiative and the ability to make decisions independently (and be held accountable for them) are also vital.

Your responsibilities will include communication with customers and internal departments, problem solving, management of statistics and ensuring that the total administration within the organisation operates effectively.

You will need to be persuasive but diplomatic, an enthusiastic personality with the determination to work hard and achieve results. Above all a professional.

You will have a sound educational background and will probably have held a similar position for at least 5 years. Salary - £7,000 to £9,000 p.a. (Quote reference NSC017).

Please apply in writing (including a salary history and C.V.) to our Personnel Manager: Paul Gibbons, National Semiconductor (U.K.) Ltd., The Maple, Kembrey Park, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 6UT. Telephone (0793) 481 848.

We've already invested in your future.

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Small company, pleasant atmosphere, require responsible, experienced, mature person to assist in the running of the company. Must be quick-witted, systematic & good humoured. Non-smoker. Needs good basic skills (120/80). Age preferred 25-35 years. Salary negotiable £2,500.

Apply in writing with full C.V. to:
Katherine O'Hanlon,
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16 Newmarket Square,
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TOP SECRETARY/PA £8,000+

Audio for 2 partners of busy small West End firm of chartered surveyors. Experience at senior level and excellent telephone manner a must. WP (Olivetti) knowledge preferred. Aged 22+.

Please telephone
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01-486 4822

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A well known and established Organisation needs a highly motivated and energetic person to assist in the running of the company. Must be quick-witted, systematic & good humoured. Non-smoker. Needs good basic skills (120/80). Age preferred 25-35 years. Salary negotiable £2,500.

Elizabeth Hunt
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18 Grosvenor Street London W1
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We are an international estate agents and are looking for a senior sales negotiator. The suitable candidate should have a sound educational background and work experience. It should be understood that these positions are not personnel officer or personnel manager role. But worth-while positions for those people who would find challenging a demanding workload of personnel administration.

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The White House, East Street
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PA/SECRETARY

Expanding branch of New York bank requires PA with secretarial skills to provide backup and continuity for management team with heavy travel schedule. Some banking/legal background necessary, with foreign languages an asset. Ideal person would be looking for further challenge and involvement. Salary commensurate with experience plus usual benefits. CV with salary requirements to: Personnel Manager, Republic National Bank of New York, 55 Broadway Street, London EC2Y 5DU. (No Agencies).

ARCHITECTS

Senior Secretary with previous architectural experience required to work for Partner of large London based practice. Must be quick-witted, systematic & good humoured. Non-smoker. Needs good basic skills (120/80). Age preferred 25-35 years. Salary negotiable £2,500.

Please Ann Hunt
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We are a leading international advertising agency and are looking for an experienced secretary to work for one of our clients.

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TRAVEL COMPANY

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requires an experienced
SECRETARY c.£7,500
for our busy Developments Director

Typing speeds minimum 80 wpm and shorthand is essential. Salary negotiable LV's plus benefits associated with a large company.

Please write with full CV to the Personnel Manager.
METROPOLE GROUP OF COMPANIES
41 Upper Brook Street, London, W1.

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PA Sec with experience at MD level for small co. Able to deal with prestigious clients. A lot of admin for new offices. Good typing essential, slow shorthand an advantage. Car driver. Salary £8,000-£8,500 +.

SW7 PUBLISHING CO
Sh/sec for Home Sales Manager. This will include organising conferences and admin. Salary £8,500-£7,000 + perks.

We also have a selection of secretarial positions for second jobbers both with and without shorthand. Salaries £8,000-£7,500. Ring today - Sally Owens or Heather Myers on 235 8427, 4 Port St, SW1.

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Join us on Thursday evenings up to 7.30 p.m. for a glass of wine and an informal chat. We've a wide variety of interesting secretarial opportunities in the City and West End at excellent starting salaries.

Phone us NOW or just drop in
JOAN TREE AGENCY
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£8,250 EARLY 20's

We are looking for an enthusiastic, energetic, mature person with accurate skills of 100/80. You will be working for a senior executive in the young friendly head office of an international Group based in the West End. You must be able to work on your own initiative, accept responsibility and put your weight as part of a team. WP experience would be an advantage but a willingness to learn is more important.

Ring 01-493 8907 or 493 0082

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Managing Director running 3 specialist holiday companies operating sailing, villa and hotel holidays needs efficient PA with good secretarial skills and working experience of computers to assist in the running of the company based in central London and Croydon.

Ideally this position will suit an experienced secretary 25/33 already in the leisure business, able to work under pressure and prepared to travel.

Apply in writing with C.V. to:
CLAREMONT TRAVEL, INVESTMENTS
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An ideal opportunity to gain useful experience and exposure in the Publishing World. You will be situated in W1 and working on a complete range of editorial material. You will also be provided with a car, have your expenses refunded and receive two outfits a year from a leading fashion house.

You will be given every support including top class management, on-going training, telephone order desk and an excellent delivery service.

Continuing expansion and promotions now make available new opportunities in Greater London and the Home Counties. So, if you are 21-29, grasp this

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Soviet Classical Music Festival
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Ministry scales down submarine base expansion

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence unveiled yesterday its £350m plans to expand its submarine base on the Clyde to accommodate the Trident submarines which will replace Polaris as Britain's strategic nuclear deterrent in the 1990s.

The proposals are radically reduced from those put forward in 1981 and withdrawn in 1982. The ministry estimates that the construction work, which it hopes will begin next year, will generate a peak of 1,500 jobs by 1986. And estimated 750 extra jobs will be stimulated in the region to meet the need for local services from the expanded base.

Royal Navy operations at the base are estimated to inject more than £60m annually into the Strathclyde region. It is thought construction work will inject a further £125m spread between 1985-1992.

It is acknowledged that the new facilities would have a visual impact on the landscape, but the ministry says it hopes this can be minimized by landscaping.

The proposals are set out in documents presented to Dunbarton District Council, Strathclyde Regional Council and other local authorities.

They include the construction of two roads to alleviate traffic problems in the Garloch area. One road, to bypass the

village of Garelochhead, will be funded by the ministry and then be handed over as a public highway to Strathclyde region.

The expansion is needed not only to accommodate Trident submarines, which will be considerably larger than Polaris vessels, and storage of their weapons, but also to support additional nuclear-powered fleet and diesel-powered patrol submarines which will come into service in the next decade.

The Clyde submarine base has two parts, an operating and

maintenance base for the submarines at Faslane, and a weapons maintenance and storage facility across the loch at Coulport, about 2.5 miles to the west.

In 1981, plans were put forward which would have expanded the Coulport depot from about 300 acres to nearly 3,000 acres, at a cost estimated at £500m.

Under the new proposals, Coulport will extend to just under 900 acres.

The Faslane base covers 225 acres, within which are 60 acres previously used for commercial shipbreaking and which are planned to be developed with new submarine facilities.

The changes from the 1981 proposals have arisen because of a decision taken in 1982 that the Trident missiles will be stored and maintained in the United States at Kings Bay, Georgia, rather than at Coulport.

The system of operation of the Trident missiles will be that the vessels will take on board their missiles, minus warheads, in the United States and then return to Coulport to be mated with their British-built nuclear warheads.

At the end of their commissions, after several years, the procedure will be reversed, with the warheads being stored at Coulport. The missiles will be taken to the United States and the submarines will return to Britain for refit.

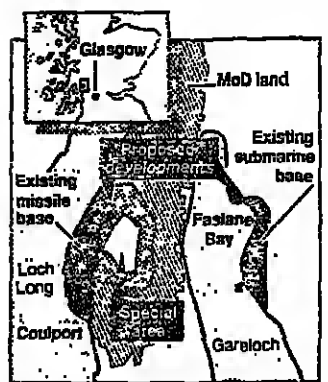
However, the ministry says that during their commissions the Trident submarines may periodically return to Coulport for operational reasons and for unscheduled repairs. For this reason storage facilities for missiles will be provided there.

The major new construction at Faslane will be a large covered slipway, capable of raising a submarine out of the water for maintenance. That will be 40 metres high, 185 metres long and 50 metres wide.

There will also be a jetty with two berths, and three additional berths for surface ships and conventionally-powered submarines, and other buildings.

There will be a belpaid at Faslane and Coulport.

● Ten people were arrested for breach of the peace and obstruction in Dunbarton before the meeting with council members and officials began to explain the proposals (Ronald Faux writes).



£28m art auction sets world record



£2.75m: Gauguin's 'Mata Maa', a scene from Tahiti painted in 1892.

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The biggest art auction in the history of the business secured a total of £28m in less than two hours at Sotheby's New York auction rooms on Tuesday night. The sale of Impressionist and modern art contained only 109 individual lots but anyone who was anyone and who had anything to sell had clamoured to get their piece in.

Sotheby's had encouraged this psychology by securing two important collections for sale - important enough to make sure that the sale became the

talking point of the art market year.

There was the estate of Mrs Emma Wolf Dreyfuss, who had formed a fascinating collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings with her first husband, Mr Julius Wolf, in the 1920s and 1930s - paintings which no collector had seen since she remarried in 1948. The 12 paintings which came for sale from her estate totalled £8.5m with only two lots (£4 per cent) unsold.

The star of the collection, the colourful Tahitian scene entitled 'Mata Maa' painted by Gauguin in 1892, sold for



£1,807,143: 'An Musée du Louvre (Miss Cassatt)' by Degas, painted circa 1879.

£3.85m (estimate \$2.5m-\$3.5m) or £2.75m, to Agnew's, the London dealers, bidding on behalf of Baron Thyssen, and sets a new auction price record for the artist.

Baron Thyssen's paintings at Lugano in Switzerland form one of the finest private collections in the world. He was recently appointed a director of Sotheby's by its new American proprietor, Mr Alfred Taubman.

A Degas from the Wolf Dreyfuss collection, 'An Musée du Louvre (Miss Cassatt)', sold for £1,807,143.

The second extraordinary

collection was of modern sculpture, mostly of monumental size, whose owner was described by Sotheby's as an 'East Coast collector' but identified by those in the know as Mrs Seward Johnson, who wields a fortune based on Johnson's baby powder and other pharmaceuticals.

This was where, the sale room bidding became frantic. Nine of her ten sculptures were sold for a total of £3.5m. All four Maillol bronzes topped the former auction price record for the sculptor of \$400,000, with two reaching £1.1m or £785,714.

Clampdown on imported drugs closes loophole

Drug companies and chemists are to be prevented from selling cheap, imported drug substitutes for ones currently available in Britain without a special licence. New regulations were announced yesterday in the Commons by Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Health, to come into force immediately.

He said it would close the loophole whereby substantial quantities of drugs from all over the world were being imported into Britain without going through the normal product

licensing procedure. Under the new arrangements no drugs from another European Community country will be sold in Britain unless it is either identical to one made and licensed here, or has no difference in therapeutic effect, and has been manufactured by the same company or group of companies.

Anxiety on safety grounds has been expressed by the British Medical Association (BMA)

Judge stands firm on polytechnic NF order

A High Court judge refused yesterday to back away from confrontation with students at North London Polytechnic who have prevented Mr Pat Harrington, an official of the National Front, from attending lectures.

The situation is approaching total anarchy, Mr Justice Mans-Jones said. "It is outrageous that just because a bunch of students run threats nothing should be done."

The college had asked the judge to suspend his order that the High Court lipstiff, backed

by the police, should ensure that Mr Harrington could attend his lectures and should arrest anyone who tried to stop him.

Counsel for the college, Mr James Goudie, QC, said that they were expecting a situation today where police officers could be injured. Mr Harrington's first lecture was at 10.30am.

MPs press for Nexos failure inquiry

By Richard Evans

A full investigation was demanded by a top Commons public spending watchdog yesterday into "unexplained" losses of £31m incurred by a state-backed office equipment venture which collapsed after three years.

Nexos Office Systems was set up in January 1979 by the National Enterprise Board in an effort to cash in on the then newly emerging world market for advanced office automation systems. It had been put into receivership by October 1981.

The powerful all-party Commons public accounts committee, in a bitterly critical report published yesterday, urges the Government to carry out an inquiry into the high risk investment which went badly wrong.

"In short, we are far from satisfied that an adequate explanation of the £31m loss has emerged or that everything possible was done to limit it," the MPs say.

"We accordingly recommend that the Department of Trade and Industry should undertake a full investigation of the loss. We shall wish to examine the outcome of the investigation."

Half the NEB investment in Nexos - £15.7m was advanced in the 10 months before the receivership decision.

The parliamentary report says that the ultimate responsibility for the failure rests with the NEB but adds that the DTI must share part of the blame for "accepting unquestioningly" the original forecast made for Nexos.

"This illustrates the need, when using public money, for the approval and funding of commercial ventures to be based on thorough and realistic evaluations of the viability of such ventures, with full assessment of risks."

The MPs say they were very surprised and concerned that the DTI had not already investigated the Nexos losses or formally reviewed and analysed the reasons for the NEB's past investment losses which reflected the board's "very disappointing" early investment record.

In a strongly worded recommendation, the report says: "Major losses of public funds should be fully investigated in the interests of public accountability."

Polygraph tests can solve crime

By a Staff Reporter

A recently retired chief constable told MPs last night that the controversial lie detector should be used to weed out policemen who were "biased" or had personality defects.

Sir George Terry, head of the Sussex force until last May, told the Commons select committee on employment he was also convinced that the instrument, which is widely used in the United States, could help police investigate crime.

Sir George, now chairman of the first firm in Britain to offer a lie detector service, said he had favoured them before he had retired from the police force. "I am convinced now, as a result of work we have undertaken, that it would be an aid to police in the investigation of crime," he said.

"I believe, too, it has an application in the police service to look for character defects - bias in the individual - which you cannot always deduce from straightforward conventional interviews."

Asked by the committee chairman Mr Ron Leighton, Labour MP for Newham North East if he believed the lie detector should be used "across the board" in the public and private sector, Sir George replied: "Yes, most certainly."

Sir George said his firm had carried out lie tests for about seven private firms since its formation last year and helped to solve crimes which had defeated police investigations.

Earlier, the all-party committee investigating the lie detectors' implications for industrial relations and employment, was shown how the instrument works. Mr Michael Clark, an assistant clerk in the Commons was given a partial test.

Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, asked the "guinea pig": "Do you find MPs easy to work with?"

"No," Mr Clark answered.

Mr Jeremy Barratt, managing director of the lie detector firm, said the accuracy of the instrument depended entirely on the operator's skill and ability.

Published ways of beating the polygraph would show up on the instrument's graph.

Dr Douglas Carroll from the Department of Psychology at the University of Birmingham, said there was no scientific evidence to support the polygraph's use for screening and vetting people.

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen opens the St Joseph's Hospice extension, St Joseph's Hospice, Hackney, 3, and later, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, gives a reception at Buckingham Palace, 9.30.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Grand Master of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, attends a service of dedication at St Paul's Cathedral, 11.30.

The Prince of Wales, Patron of the York Archaeological Trust, visits the Jorvik Viking Centre and

Coppergate Development, York, 10.

Princess Anne opens the Beverly Consolidated Charities new Almshouses, Beverly, North Humberside, 11.15, and later visits the Tunstall Television Group and opens Whiteley Lodge, Goole, North Humberside, 12.30.

Princess Margaret visits the Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre at RAF Brampton, Cambridgeshire, 11.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, President of the National Boys' Clubs' Association, visits clubs in Lancashire, including Burnley Boys' Club, 11: lunch at Trafalgar Hotel, Salford, 12.30; Lancaster Boys' Club, 12.30.

Club, 2.25; Blackpool Boys' Club, 4.30; and Bolton Ladies' Club, 5.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, returns from Germany, arriving RAF Northolt, 3.45.

Princess Michael of Kent attends a Reception given by the Queen at Buckingham Palace, 9.30.

New exhibition Paintings and drawings by Leslie McConnel, John McKel, Ian Deuchar, Gil Wallace and William Davies, MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr, Mon to Sat 11-5, Sun 2-5, ends June 10.

South Yorkshire Police Male Voice Choir and Band, Eighth Annual Concert, Priory Place Methodist Church, Printing Office Street, Doncaster, 7.30.

Guitar recital by Stanley Yates, Liverpool Parish Church, Pier Head, Liverpool, 8.05.

Concert by East of England Orchestra, with James Parsons, Southwell Minster, Nottinghamshire, 7.30.

Concert by BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Perth Festival of Arts, City Hall, Perth, 7.30.

Talks, lectures From Lemurs to Anthropoid Apes: lives of some primates, by I. Bunyan, St. Mary's Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11.

John Feneley and other sporting artists, Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester, 12.45.

The Magdalen in modern times: the Mythology of the Fallen Woman in Pre-Raphaelite painting, by Lynn Neave, the Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Manchester, 6.30.

The Identity of Intellectual History, by John Burrow, the University of Sussex, Brighton, 6.30.

General Devon County Show, Exhibition Way, Whipton, Exeter, Devon, 9 to 7.

Lords 15: London Regional Transport Bill, committee, second day.

National Day Norway today celebrates the passage of its constitution through the constituent assembly at Elvalöv in 1814.

The population of 4 million speak two forms of Norwegian, which are officially recognized as equal. About 80 per cent of children in schools use the older form, Bokmal while only 20 per cent use the newer form, Nynorsk (Neo-Norwegian).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,432

Across

1 Flimsy material for padre's boat (10).

9 Flower-girl holds record for silliness (16).

10 Stories the arts master found a curse (18).

11 Bad language to follow closely? The French can (15).

12 He observed a hunter, it's said, down the Elephant (4).

13 Just the bird to go to Pinocchio's head? (10).

15 Head accepts hire of painter's board (17).

17 Steps nimbly back with marshal to the corpse (17).

20 As a means of protection it has its up and downs (10).

21 Stitch causes upset (4).

23 Message spread to allow retreat (8).

25 Liqueur for a musical group, say (18).

26 Not in suitable gear (6).

27 A sagacity associated with small fish? Just so (10).

DOWN

2 Records for a pound, in old Asian coins (6).

3 Use it, Tom, to make a meal for yourself (8).

4 Mole fixes leisure spell on the river? (10).

5 Destination of a wicked fellow? (7).

6 But it's no obstacle to a female impersonator (14).

7 Hide from Billy the Kid? Could be on the bottle (18).

8 Mint coin worthy of a king (10).

13 Prominence required for warlike enterprise (10).

14 Condiment perfect for suckers (10).

16 Publicity handouts from the smaller branches (8).

18 A brief dose shortens this game (8).

19 First male worker, unyielding to requests (7).

22 Sound bases for travellers' courses (6).

24 Upset at alternative duty cycle (14).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,431

ACROSS

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New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

Being Gertrude Stein, 1920-1930, by Robert McAlmon and Kay Boyle (Hogarth, £2.50).

Coming Through the Slaughter, A novel by Michael Ondaatje (Picador, £2.50).

Jumping the Queue, a novel by Mary Wesley (Black Swan, £1.95).

Mapp and Lucia, by E. F. Benson (Black Swan, £2.95).

Miss Mapp, by E. F. Benson (Black Swan, £2.95).

Pressure: the A to Z of campaigning in Britain, by Des Wilson (Hainemann, £2.95).

Running in the Family, by Michael Ondaatje (Picador, £2.95).

Tales of the City, by Armistead Maupli (Hogarth, £2.95).

The Amazing First World War, a novel by Adam Alington (Hogarth, £2.95).

The Leavetaking, a novel by John McGahern (Faber, £2.95).

PH

Anniversaries

Births: Edward Jenner, surgeon and discoverer of vaccination, Berkeley, Gloucestershire, 1749; Sir Norman Lockyer, astronomer, Rugby, Warwickshire, 1836; Erik Satie, composer, Honfleur, France, 1866; Deaths: Sandro Botticelli, Florentine, 1510; Paul Dukas, composer, Paris, 1935.

Handicapped aids

The National Trust is providing facilities for wheelchairs at beauty spots and nature reserves and details are given in its new guide.

Facilities for the Disabled and Visually Handicapped at National Trust Properties, out this month.

Blind visitors and their dogs are welcome at nearly all Trust properties, but they are advised to bring a sighted companion. Properties that cannot accept guide dogs are listed in the Trust's main guide.

Properties Open. A scale model of Upstart, West Sussex, is available for visually handicapped visitors to handle. Staff there will carry wheelchairs down to the servants' room and the shop in the basement. Among properties with special paths and a visitor centre for the disabled is Cragside, Northumberland.

The pound

Australia \$ 1.51

Austria Sch 28.00

Belgium Fr 81.50

Canada \$ 1.85

Denmark Kr 14.43

Finland Mk 8.36

France Fr 12.13

Germany DM 3.92

Greece Dr 157.00

Hong Kong \$ 11.25

Ireland £ 1.28

Italy Lira 242.00

Japan Yen 335.00

Netherlands Gld 4.44

Norway Kr 11.24

Portugal Esc 198.00

South Africa Rd 2.19

Spain Pta 166.00

Sweden Kr 11.69

Switzerland Fr 3.27

USA \$ 1.43

Yugoslavia Dnr 206.00

Notes for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank, London. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currencies.

Retail Price Index: 345.1

London: The FT closed up 1.4 at 879.4.

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Weather forecast

A slack area of low pressure will cover the British Isles.

6am to midnight